Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-202
Wednesday
19 October 1988

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FBIS-LAT-88-202 *19 October 1988*

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NOTICE TO READERS: For three months beginning in November, material formerly appearing in the JPRS LATIN AMERICA REPORT will be published on a trial basis in the FBIS LATIN AMERICA DAILY REPORT.

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Central American Presidents' Summit Postponed

PA1810213888 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Report by Regina Canas on interview with Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Canas] Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta announced today that the Central American presidents' summit scheduled to be held 20-25 November in San Salvador has been postponed until early December.

[Acevedo] "We cannot subject our people to speculation and expectations that would only further tarnish the image of the governments determined to continue the peace process. However, without a full agenda and some positive news to offer our people, it is useless to have another presidential summit. Therefore, there is still a lot to discuss. We do not want a presidents' meeting to be simply an international political meeting which, in the long run, would have negative results."

[Canas] The Salvadoran foreign minister explained that this decision was made by the five Central American foreign ministers meeting in New York during the UN General Assembly. Acevedo said that holding the summit—which was initially scheduled to take place 20-25 November—following the Central American foreign ministers' summit and the 18th OAS General Assembly will depend on the country's ability to participate effectively in the three events. I asked him whether he thought it would be beneficial to postpone the presidential summit until after the results of the U.S. presidential elections are known.

[Acevedo] "I believe it would be even more beneficial to obtain the necessary and sufficient support from the OAS to ensure that the presidents' actions will be sufficiently supported by the OAS General Assembly. I believe that a communique from this assembly, promoted and signed by all 32 foreign ministers, would indeed constitute an important step toward ensuring that this presidential meeting will have a good chance of success."

[Canas] At the OAS General Assembly, which will take place in San Salvador next month, Central American problems will be on the agenda. The peace process will be carefully analyzed. In this regard, El Salvador will urge countries within the international community to comply with Esquipulas II mandates to eliminate support for rebel groups and insurrectionist movements operating in the region.

Finally, in commenting on statements by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto at the United Nations, in which he described El Salvador as a U.S. lackey, Acevedo said that the Sandinist government hid behind those unfounded accusations to avoid responding to our countries' charge that Nicaragua is not complying with Esquipulas II.

Madrigal: 'No Firm Dates'

PA1910035988 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto has said there are no firm dates for the Central American presidential summit. This statement came after it was announced that the San Salvador summit had been postponed.

According to Madrigal, there were not even firm dates for the Central American foreign ministers' meeting, which must be held before the summit. For that reason, there were no set dates for the summit either.

Madrigal added that other problems prevented the early November presidential summit. He said the problems between Nicaragua and Honduras still exist, and these are blocking the foreign ministers' meeting. Honduras says that as long as Nicaragua continues its suit against Honduras at the International Court of Justice, it will not attend any regional meeting.

Similarly, several Central American presidents believe that to make progress in the regional peace process, the foreign ministers must issue a resolution that would subsequently be discussed at the presidential summit.

One of the reasons there is no progress in the regional peace process is Nicaragua's refusal to negotiate before the U.S. presidential elections. Madrigal Nieto said that for this reason the peace plan continues to face difficulties, but he warned that we are [words indistinct] necessary for new efforts to make some progress.

Group of 8 To Discuss ALADI, Antidrug Efforts

PY1410173188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0836 GMT 14 Oct 88

[By Juan Antonio de Lucas]

[Text] Montevideo, 14 Oct (EFE)—Diplomatic sources today reported that at the upcoming Group of Eight presidential meeting in Punta del Este (Uruguay) the presidents will promote the resurgence of the ALADI as a driving force for the Latin American integration process.

The sources added that the draft of the final communique on the summit, which will be held from 27 to 29 October, includes five basic chapters, one of which will involve the reactivation of ALADI.

According to the preliminary indications concerning the agenda of the Punta del Este summit, the seven Latin American presidents—Panama has been temporarily

excluded for foreign policy reasons—will devote a great portion of their discussions to studying the economic crisis and its possible solutions, with special emphasis on the foreign debt problem.

The presidents will come to Uruguay accompanied by their respective foreign and economy ministers, who will study the appropriate measures to promote Latin American trade and to increase its volume by 40 percent within 3 years.

The diplomatic sources pointed out that the political decision to reactivate the ALADI as an institutional tool for Latin American integration was already made during the first Group of Eight meeting that was held in Acapulco (Mexico) in December 1987.

The diplomatic sources added that, on this occasion, Brazil proposed a system of consultation and relations between business firms of the ALADI member countries in order to expedite and increase economic ties.

As an indication that the purpose of the Group of Eight is to reactivate the ALADI, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid will deliver a speech at the ALADI headquarters in Montevideo on 26 October, completing an official visit to Uruguay.

In recent remarks, Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti also gave an indication in this connection, stating that the Group of Eight "is not a new institutional organization or a different means of integration that seeks to replace the ALADI."

Established in 1980, the ALADI, which includes all the South American nations and Mexico, is—in the opinion of international economists and attorneys—an appropriate mechanism to articulate economic integration, as it encourages the implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements.

It is currently believed that the Argentina-Brazil axis, the two economically most powerful Latin American nations, with growing trade relations, is a driving force for general integration.

Nevertheless, the latest trade balance yielded a loss for Argentina, as it imported Brazilian products worth $4 billion while Argentine exports to Brazil barely totaled $250 million.

Regional Drug 'Alliance' Urged

PY1710175188 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0055 GMT 6 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Oct (NA)—The justice ministers of the countries that make up the Group of Eight will ask their presidents to convene another conference of justice ministers with the participation of other regional countries, to form an alliance to fight drug trafficking.

Interior Minister Enrique Nosiglia said the conference of justice ministers could be held "before the end of the year."

Nosiglia stressed that the representatives of all producer and consumer countries at the meeting today "were in total agreement" to convene the conference.

After 5 hours of deliberation at the Interior Ministry Coat of Arms Hall, the ministers signed "a working proposal" containing the suggestion to their presidents on the extended conference. The Group of Eight presidents will meet in Punta del Este on 27 October.

The document began with a short statement detailing the ministers' agreement on the matter of drug trafficking, and warning about "the threat to the security of all nations, in addition to the survival of democratic institutions in some countries."

The document also emphasizes the ministers concern over "the growth of drug trafficking that is promoted from countries with a large consumption capacity" and the dangers "of an alliance between drug traffickers and terrorists who are helped by the profit from the illicit trade that is legalized by international financial organizations."

The ministers' declaration says the situation is so serious that no single government can handle it alone, that world cooperation is needed for a joint action because it is "the only way the fight against [words indistinct] and drug trafficking can succeed."

The officials further understand that an "international financial cooperation" is "essential"—besides the application of the principle of co-responsibility agreed upon in the Vienna international conference—if any concerted action is to succeed.

Minister Nosiglia told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that this declaration is subordinated to a "confidential report" that will not be published before the presidents of the Group of Eight are informed about it.

This document elaborates on the Group of Eight countries' agreements, and expresses concern that the solutions "are implemented in accordance with their importance."

The officials agreed to request that the presidents, who will be meeting in Punta del Este on 27 October, convene a conference of justice ministers, and form "an alliance in the region to "effectively fight for our common and national interests."

River Plate Basin Meeting Opens in Asuncion

PY1710174388 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 17 Oct 88 p 17

[Excerpt] The navigational routes of the River Plate Basin, particularly the Parana and Paraguay Rivers, are the issues to be discussed at an international meeting

that opens this morning. The meeting will be held at the National Navigations and Ports Administration (ANNP) headquarters, and it will be attended by experts from Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Bolivia.

Ramon A. Cabrera, manager of the ANNP engineering sector, has informed the newspaper HOY that the meeting will open today at 0900 and that it consists of two stages. He said the "Ad Hoc" Commission that was established in Campo Grande [not further identified] will meet in the first stage. This commission will draft a report on the issue under discussion. This report will be submitted to the meeting of foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin, which is scheduled for November.

According to Cabrera, during the second stage, a group of experts will meet to continue studying navigation on the Parana and Paraguay rivers.

Through the years, full use of navigational routes in the region has become a priority objective due to variations in the international economy and the high cost of other transportation methods. [passage omitted]

Progress of Interocean Rail Corridor Evaluated
PY1710173988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0429 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 13 Oct (EFE)—Argentine, Bolivian, and Peruvian representatives today closed the third technical meeting seeking to evaluate the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Los Libertadores interocean corridor, a railroad connection that will link these three countries as of next year.

Bolivian delegate Carlos Gonzales said that the railroad will link Buenos Aires, La Paz, and Matarani as a way of boosting the economies in northeastern Argentina, southeastern Bolivia, and southern Peru.

According to the final report on the meeting, "Los Libertadores corridor is an essential project aimed at strengthening and dynamizing the integration among the three countries." Argentine representative Angel Maria Oliver and Peruvian representative Harry Belevan participated in the meeting with Gonzalez.

The report proposed eliminating the compulsory use of passports, replacing them with other identity documents, creating a single transport license for freight, and establishing a common system of custom requirements and port facilities.

The next meeting of experts to evaluate the progress of the project has been set for March 1989.

The corridor will be 3,542 km long and it will be the first in Latin America to join the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

The foreign ministers of the three countries in question agreed to establish this corridor at a meeting they held in September, taking advantage of the fact that they were already in New York for the UN General Assembly.

Cuba

Castro Tours Construction Equipment Factory

FL1910132788 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz has toured the Manuel Aneiros Subirats construction equipment enterprise located in Guira de Melena municipality, Havana Province.

During his tour of the factory, Fidel expressed interest in the wide variety and quality of machinery produced at the plant, such as concrete mixers, forklifts, and other machines. [passage omitted]

Miret Tours Camaguey Industries; Views 'Progress'

FL1810233488 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2051 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] PCC Politburo member Pedro Miret Prieto has toured several industries in Camaguey. He was positively impressed by the continuous, accurate, and systematic way in which progress is being made. At the factory where valves for oxygen and acetylene tanks are produced—this is the first factory of its type in the country—Miret Prieto was able to confirm this impression inasmuch as the product requires a high level of quality in order to be used. The party leader also learned that the first 10,000 valves have been produced and, according to the workers, the plan to produce 50,000 valves a year will be met. [passage omitted]

Increase in Cooperation With USSR Noted

FL1810144588 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The volume of Soviet-Cuban cooperation is 18 times higher during the current 5-year period than in the period between 1961 to 1965. This information was published this weekend in PRAVDA, in an article that analyzed the subject.

The newspaper reported that, in almost 3 decades of cooperation, approximately 400 industrial products and other things were built in Cuba. It added that during the same period of time, the circulation of merchandise grew 50 times, and the approximate total yearly value exceeded $9 billion.

PRAVDA pointed out that Soviet cooperation made possible in Cuba the creation of a power system and the extraction of 900,000 tons of oil annually.

Country Named CEMA Statistics Commission Head

FL1810200188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Cuba was elected president of CEMA's permanent commission on statistics today. This agreement was reached prior to the 47th CEMA meeting on statistics which will be held from 18-21 October at the Habana Libre Hotel in Havana. This is the first time that our country has assumed this responsibility. The meeting will be attended by delegations from the United Nations, Nicaragua, Yemen, the EEC, and ECLA.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] The work schedule of this 47th meeting should include the analysis of important points related to the improvement of statistical activities in our respective countries, such as those pertaining to statistics that measure the progress of integral scientific and technological programs. [end recording]

CEMA Meeting on Computer Standardization Held

FL1510192088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1400 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] CEMA has agreed to include the Spanish language in technical computer material produced by the socialist community during a meeting held in our capital on the occasion of the world standardization day.

It was also announced that an aid program for Cuba was approved. It is aimed at increasing production of video terminals or displays [preceding word in English], keyboards, electronic components, medical equipment, and computer programs recognized internationally.

The development level attained by our country in the creation of computer technical material was noted during the recently-held meeting of the Standardization Council of the CEMA Intergovernmental Commission on Computers.

Opening Session of Information Congress Ends

FL1710192188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The opening session of the International Congress on Scientific and Technical Information, Info 88, ended a few moments ago at the Palace of Conventions.

The opening session was held in Room 1 of this convention center. The session was attended by 300 foreign delegates and 300 Cuban delegates. They are representatives from the central organizations of the state, the diplomatic corps accredited in our country, and workers in scientific-technical information.

Opening this meeting, the president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences [Rosa Elena Simeon] stressed the importance of this field for the current development of international research and science.

[Begin Simeon recording] This congress is a great responsibility for all of us because we are convinced of the imperative need to exchange experiences and knowledge, share the results achieved, and propose new ways, each time more feasible, to make available the scientific and

technological achievements that our countries, and the world in general, produce as an indispensable resource for the development of our nations. [end recording]

Expo Info 88 was also opened this morning. This is an exhibit in which people involved in the fields of information and editing participate. It includes practical demonstrations of their products and systems through a pool [preceding word in English] of equipment with access capability to the international network of data transmission.

Envoy on Establishment of Relations With EC

FL1810193088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1251 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Interview with (Luigi Boselli), EC ambassador, by unidentified reporter for the "Morning Magazine" program; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [(Boselli)] I think it opens up a new fundamental phase in our relations, a phase of dialogue. It is also evident that we will have to work together and discuss the possibilities for cooperation. For me, personally, I think that what is more important now, first of all, is a dialogue on the possibilities for commercial promotion. I think that there are possibilities for the promotion of exports from Cuba to the EC; this is very important during this moment of general crisis. We have a program with Latin American countries and, at this moment, Cuba will be able to participate and benefit from this program. Furthermore, there will be possibilities for industrial, technological, and scientific cooperation. There will also be training. Already, EC members render possibilities for training. Let's also not forget the cultural aspect. We have already started with yesterday's inauguration of the Bolivar and Europe exhibit as a common cultural action. I think it is important that we also establish relations in this area.

[Reporter] Would that interfere with U.S. economic policy in the area?

[(Boselli)] No, I don't think so; I do not see why. Frankly, there is no kind of counterposition. We offer cooperation to Latin American countries. We are in a new phase, in the interior of Europe, with CEMA member countries. I think that Cuba has the, let's say, unique ability to be both a CEMA member country and a member of the group of Latin American nations. Therefore, it has a double-sided possibility for dialogue with the community.

[Reporter] With regard to SELA, what are the future possibilities for development of relations between the EC and this organization?

[(Boselli)] We have always had prioritized relations. For us, SELA is a fundamental organization in the search for Latin American unity. We have always been delighted that this organization is in an important development and political phase. Above all, we are happy that Cuba is actively participating in the tasks of this important organization.

[Reporter] What is the relationship between your economic policy and the economic crisis that currently affects the area?

[(Boselli)] Without a doubt, it is in the EC's best interest to help Latin American countries extricate themselves from the foreign debt crisis. We suffer from this situation. For example, Latin American imports from Europe have decreased drastically in the past few years. Therefore, it is in the EC's best interest to help these countries, with all possible means, extricate themselves from this situation. Of course, we try to facilitate Latin American exports. We also try to [illegible] financial capacities. However, there are limits, a[illegible]itely, the situation has not developed favorably. However, we have emerged from the darkest moment of the foreign debt crisis.

[Reporter] Thank you very much.

PDRY Party Secretary General Receives Balaguer

FL1810131488 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] 'Ali Salim al-Bid, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP], has received the Cuban delegation headed by Jose Ramon Balaguer, secretary of the PCC Central Committee.

During the meeting, al-Bid recalled the official visit he made to Cuba this year, and he sent a warm greeting to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz. The leader of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen outlined his country's efforts in promoting the tasks for economic, political and social development. He also reiterated Democratic Yemen's desire to settle conflicts by means of political solutions based on principles.

Balaguer also visited the house-museum of the Yemeni leader 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, who died during the bloody events of 13 January 1986.

Minister Attends Cooperation Session in Algeria

FL1710162488 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Levi Farah, Cuban minister of construction materials industry, met yesterday with the Algerian ministers of hydraulics, forests and fishing, and commerce.

During the two meetings, the possibilities for expanding bilateral cooperation in those areas were discussed. The Cuban official is attending in Algieria the fourth [as heard] session of the joint committee on bilateral cooperation.

Rodriguez Receives Award on Culture Day
FL1710131188 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The Plaza de la Revolucion Commemorative Coin has been presented to Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, during a ceremony at the Casa de la Cultura in Plaza municipality, Havana, on the occasion of the National Culture Day.

This award was also given to Pablo Milanes, Roberto Fernandez Retamar, Nicolas Guillen, Sergio Corrieri, and Arturo Sandoval. The honored guests attended the opening of a plastic arts exhibit by artists Carmelo Gonzalez and (Lesbia Aben Dumois), which is part of the first meeting of intellectuals and artists of Plaza de la Revolucion.

Thermoelectric Plant in Camaguey Completed
FL1810164588 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] The investment program [as heard] for the 10 October thermoelectric plant in Camaguey has been completed. Pedro Miret, member of the PCC Central Committee Politburo, and a CSSR delegation attended the event.

On Sunday the thermoelectric plant synchronized its sixth generator unit to the national electric power system. Thus, the plant increased its total hour (?output) to 567 megawatts.

Havana Province Reports Electricity Savings
FL1810164388 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1504 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Havana Province has saved, up to September, more than 27,000 megawatt hours by using only 95 percent of the electricity allotted for that period. Also, compared to what had been planned, 10,000 tons of diesel fuel were saved. However, use of oil during this period exceeded the plan by 5 percent. The major users of oil in Havana Province were the Ministry of Basic Industry and the Ministry of the Food Industry.

At the same time, there is a 1 percent surplus of gasoline, primarily in the Ministries of Agriculture and Transportation, among others. This situation is worrisome if one takes into account the fact that production in the past 9 months has only reached 92 percent.

Antigua and Barbuda

Bird Defends Government Projects, Management
FL1810144488 Bridgetown CANA in English 1416 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] St John's, Antigua, Oct 18, CANA—Prime Minister Vere Bird says his Antigua Labour Party (ALP) government has a good management team which will ensure that the country is equipped to face the challenges of the 21st century with confidence and pride. "Every one of Labour's projects can pay back for itself with the application of good management," Bird was quoted as saying in the weekly pro-government newspaper THE NATION. "You will have to choose between more prosperity with Labour and anarchy and deprivation waiting to be foisted upon you by the other side", Bird was quoted as saying.

It was in an apparent reference to members of the defunct Progressive Labour Movement (PLM) and the United People's Movement (UPM) who comprise the bulk of the two year-old United National Democratic Party (UNDP) platform.

"They insulted and abused our most worthy citizens and reduced our country and people to poverty and despair" Bird said. "Antigua and Barbuda can't afford to gamble away its future by counting groups and political parties whose only interest is to be elected to office even at the expense of seriously retarding the nation's march of progress."

Government Accused of Reintroducing Income Tax
FL1810155788 Bridgetown CANA in English 1502 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] St John's, Antigua, Oct 18, CANA—The Opposition United National Democratic Party (UNDP) has accused the Vere Bird administration of "secretly" agreeing to reintroduce income tax into Antigua and Barbuda should it win the next general elections. The accusation was made in the lates publication of the pro-UNDP newspaper, RAPPORE.

In a front-page article, the paper said that the government had been forced to make the "secret" pact because of a "serious cash flow problem the treasury is encountering and the inability... to meet all of government's loan payments." Antigua-Barbuda abolished tax 12 years ago.

"Government feels that with this reintroduction of income tax they will be able to get money from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to ease their terrible cash crisis", the paper said. RAPPORE said at a recent Antigua Labour Party (ALP) caucus it was agreed to reintroduce income tax for workers making over EC200 dollars per week or 800 dollars per month, to help repay the country's mounting national debt. The country's external is U.S. 200 million dollars.

The ruling ALP scrapped income tax in 1976 when the party regained office from the Progressive Labour Movement (PLM).

With all the political parties already campaigning for the next elections, constitutionally due by 1989, the ALP has already charged that the UNDP planned to reintroduce income tax. The UNDP branded the allegation as a "blatant lie".

Haiti

Background To Coup Attempt Over Weekend Given

FL1810175588 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] The official news denies a report that was carried in the press. We ourselves had also carried the report in question on the arrest of 30 sergeants. We have the list. It is a list that was distributed to the press. We received a copy here. There are some 30 names on this list, such as Captain [as heard] (Pierre A. Cherubin), (Edmond Fethiere), (Richard Salomon), (Joseph Medard), and many others. There are some 30 names of people from among those who were apparently involved in the 17 September coup d'etat. According to the list we received, these people participated in the 17 September coup but have been arrested in connection with the attempted coup d'etat over the weekend.

So, were they involved or not? Or was it an attempt to arrest these men, who participated in the 17 September coup? This is the big question.

Meanwhile, however, an official Haitian source denies this report that 30 sergeants, among them people who were responsible for the 17 September coup, have been arrested. Thus, they say that this report is totally false.

The men who tried to carry out a coup d'etat over the weekend were trying to destabilize the regime. This was to result, first, in the arrest of three officers close to General Avril: Lieutenant Colonel Philippe Biamby, the commander of the Presidential Guard; Lieutenant Colonel (Robert Marc-Charles), a member of President Avril's executive secretariat; and Captain Jean Thomas, a member of the president's private secretariat. The latter two are members of the Presidential Guard. According to this same report, in order to get these three officers in trouble and also to force General Avril to arrest them, the plotters circulated rumors to the effect that these officers were preparing a coup d'etat against President Avril.

Sergeants and enlisted men from the Army grass roots warned President Avril and Sergeant Hebreux, who is the spokeman for the Army grass roots, and they were able to counter this attempt at destabilization. It is reported that General Avril personally intervened in order to prevent Sgt Bochard being killed, says this same report. [passage omitted]

Up until midday yesterday, our Army contacts here in Port-au-Prince from both the Army General Headquarters and from the National Palace denied the report. The people we were able to contact by phone said that they didn't know there had been a coup attempt. However, late yesterday afternoon, they ended up acknowledging it—accepting the publication of information to the effect that there had been an attempted coup. Several newspapers and radio stations (?had) already carried this report. For example, the Voice of America spoke of it. Thus, they finally acknowledged that there had been a coup attempt. This time it was Samuel Jeremie, a man who had been close to Jean-Claude Duvalier and who had been sentenced to some 15 years' imprisonment and released after 17 September, who was financing the coup that was to take place this weekend, on Saturday night. [passage omitted]

People say that the Army men who tried Jeremie after 7 February 1986 did not so much try him for the criminal acts he had committed in the Leogane area as for impertinence. According to these Army men, Jeremie, whose rank was not as high as their own, did not show much respect for them. It is said that Jeremie was not much liked by either the Army grass roots or the officers. The Army grass roots didn't like him because they considered him privileged, a man who did not rise up through the Army ranks normally, gradually. He skipped steps. The officers are said not to have liked him because despite the fact that he was an enlisted man and not high-ranking, he did not show respect for his superiors—meaning General Henri Namphy, General Regala, and the others. It seems Jeremie did not show respect for them, and used to fail to salute them. I seems that it was more this impertinence than the acts he committed on 31 January in Leogane that they were making him pay for.

Soldiers Reportedly Seek Medical Aid 16 Oct

FL1810180788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] There was a coup d'etat attempt on Saturday night. However, on Sunday night, there seems to have been something else going on. According to a report from a reliable source, a group of men clad in olive green, apparently soldiers—some 40 of them—went to several hospitals in Port-au-Prince. These men were searching frantically for medical care, because several of them were wounded.

They went to one hospital after another. Apparently there were not enough doctors to take care of them. This happened on Sunday night. They were running around like madmen, seeking medical care.

People say that this business of wounded men, this business of men clad in olive green seeking medical care, could be connected either to the coup d'etat or to drugs. Some people say it seems they managed to break up a [drug] ring on Sunday night. However, there is as yet not much information on this matter.

Armed Forces Discharges Military Figures

FL1810173388 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpts] A high-ranking Army official says that the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] General Headquarters took measures against one FADH officer, four noncommissioned officers, and one enlisted man on Sunday, 16

October 1988. Army authorities discharged Major (Pierre A. Cherubin) and also fired Sub-Lieutenant (Joseph Medard), Sub-Lieutenant (Richard Salomon), Sub-Lieutenant (Pierre Michel Lubin), Adjutant (Pierre Louis Faudnesse), and Sergeant Patrick Bochard.

Maj (Cherubin), Sub-Lt (Medard), and Sub-Lt (Salomon) were at Army General Headquarters in Port-au-Prince. Sub-Lt (Lubin) was in the Police. Adjutant (Faudnesse) was in the Presidential Guard. Sgt Bochard had just been appointed the director of the Supervisory Commission for Games of Chance. We have been told that he is currently under guard.

The high-ranking Army official told RTNH [national radio and television network] that the reason the General Headquarters took action against the FADH members listed above was for the good of the service—as they say in French: Pour le bien du service. He did not give any further details on this matter.

However, according to other information we have, it seems these men were involved in an attempt to destabilize the government—an attempt which the authorities managed to quickly neutralize. Also, we have learned that Samuel Jeremie has been arrested anew, and returned to prison. [passage omitted]

Maj (Cherubin), who is a nephew of General Wilthan Lherisson, retired, has been discharged from the Army because he was involved in this same matter. It seems that he has gone into hiding. Three other officers whose names were not given are reportedly also involved in this same matter. According to AFP there have been other arrests, but we cannot trust that report, according to the information we ourselves have received here at Delmas 33. [passage omitted]

Further on Drug Seizure, Arrest of Foreigners
FL1810181588 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] A reliable source reports that 433 kg of cocaine valued at $4.5 million on the Haitian market were seized here in Port-au-Prince Saturday on a boat with Panamanian registry, the "Apformajex." The boat's eight-member crew, consisting of four Chileans and four Greeks, as well as the boat's owner, Mr (Alan Knox), an American, have been arrested by the Haitian police.

According to Major Ramus St-Vil, who heads the Haitian Narcotics Bureau, this operation was carried out in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Agency, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Center for Information and Coordination that (?these agencies) recently created in Haiti to fight drug trafficking.

It seems the boat left Venezuela on 22 September carrying a shipment of cement destined for the town of Saint-Marc, 98 km from Port-au-Prince. [passage omitted]

Cap Haitien Demonstration Supports Aristide
FL1810222288 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Report by correspondent (Elima Norelus) from Cap Haitien]

[Excerpts] Youth groups in Cap Haitien took to the streets [Saturday, 15 October] to demonstrate against certain leaders in the public administration and the decision to exile Father Jean Bertrand Aristide. [passage omitted]

They chanted slogans hostile to Archbishop Francois Gayot. [passage omitted]

We must tell you that the tactical unit in Cap Haitien kept a very close eye on the demonstrators. There were armed soldiers in front of, behind, along side, and among the crowd. However, this did not discourage the demonstrators. [passage omitted] There were no violent incidents.

Also, as Msgr Francois Gayot ordained a priest Sunday morning at the cathedral in Cap Haitien, a few people inside the church yelled: Down with Gayot! Long live the popular church! Long live Father Aristide! However, the mass continued because there were many authorities [chef] both inside and outside the church. In fact, Gayot had gone to the cathedral under military escort and he was also escorted back to the archbishophric after the mass. Rumors had been circulating since the day before that the young people were going to stone him.

We must also point out that the mass to ordain this priest was celebrated without a choir or any singing group. This is the first time such a (?big) mass was celebrated in the cathedral in Cap Haitien without a choir or a singing group. Both the groups and the choir from the cathedral are hostile to Msgr Gayot. It is, in fact, they who during the past week had issued press releases [words indistinct] pointing the finger at all the bishops, and particularly Msgr Gayot. They also expressed their support for Father Aristide in these press releases. [passage omitted]

Everything was calm and normal in Cap Haitien yesterday, Monday, 17 October. [passage omitted]

Correction to Item on 'Criminal Landowners'

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "'Criminal Landowners' Threaten Northwest Populace," published in the 17 October Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 9:

Column two, second paragraph, from line one, reads: In a (?long) letter addressed to the press and the soldiers in Port-de-Paix who adhere to the 17 September movement, the small peasant farmers of the cooperative action groups say that they have never....(rewording)

Trinidad and Tobago

Former Ruling Party Ministers To Form New Party

FL1810015888 Bridgetown CANA in English
2308 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 16, CANA—A group of former ruling party ministers in Trinidad and Tobago took the expected decision on Sunday night to form a breakaway political party, but insisted they would set it up slowly.

In an afternoon session delayed by an hour of rainfall, the Club'88 group finally addressed a large crowd of supporters late Sunday to get their consensus on the formation of a breakaway political party.

The group's leader, Basdeo Panday, promised the new party would do everything in consultation with the population in attempting to establish national unity it claimed the ruling national alliance for reconstruction had lost. A name, symbol and policies of the group will be formulated following the widest possible national consultation, with even the name being chosen through a national competition, Panday told a crowd which swelled to well over 5,000 persons by Sunday evening.

The rally got off to a slow start as about 2,000 people arrived on time, to meet a one-hour downpour of rain which left the Central Trinidad Aranguez Savannah site in a very muddy state. Speeches got underway after 3 pm and the Indian-dominated crowd only began to swell around 4:30 pm as the last of the rains disappeared.

"The formation of a political party does not consist merely in the publication of a constitution and a manifesto. It should not be the decision of a few but the result of an overwhelming desire of at least thousands of people," Panday said, in explaining why the group had not formed a party when first kicked out from Cabinet in February. "Now that thousands have given us that mandate, we must proceed by practising what we preach. We must no rush out and publish a constitution, print application forms and declare ourselves a political party tomorrow," Panday said. "We must spend the next couple months holding discussions with the widest cross section of the population," he added.

Panday and his colleagues were kicked out from Cabinet earlier this year and expelled two weeks ago following criticisms of the direction of the NAR and Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson. The Club'88 group read out a no-confidence motion directed at Robinson and the NAR administration which received cheers from the crowd.

Robinson: Critics 'Trying To Kill Democracy'

FL1810103888 Bridgetown CANA in English
1504 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Roxborough, Tobago, Oct 17, CANA—Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson on Sunday took a turn at dissidents ministers recently expelled from his ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), accusing them of trying to kill democracy.

"I want to warn the country that there are some people in the nation today who are out to destroy our democracy...to destroy our way of life, destroy our constitution and impose, I know not what," Robinson told a rally in the south eastern coastal Tobago town of Roxborough. "They want to be a law unto themselves. So when they cannot dictate to the Cabinet and control the Cabinet, they seek to destroy the Cabinet and when they cannot control the parliament, they go outside to undermine the parliament. And when they cannot control the executive of the party, they seek to destroy the executive and when they cannot get the support of the membership of the National Alliance for Reconstruction, they seek to destroy the National Alliance for Reconstruction. And they say that is democracy," Robinson said.

Robinson spoke as the dissidents, headed by former NAR deputy leader and ex-Foreign Minister Basdeo Panday and his colleagues were announcing in Port-of-Spain plans to form a new political party. The prime minister said he had no quarrel with those who wanted to form new parties. Everybody is free in Trinidad and Tobago to either stand for election by himself or form a political party," Robinson told some 2,000 supporters in his native Tobago.

The dissident group, under the banner of Club'88, had prior to being expelled frequently criticised Robinson publicly. The prime minister told Sunday's rally that he had been willing to seek a reconciliation with the dismissed ministers, but there were stumbling blocks.

"...Reconciliation can only take place in the basis of principles," he told supporters. "We must stand for the same principles of behaviour. We must stand for the same ethics, the same codes, the same standard of conduct .. otherwise we don't stand for the same things."

"What is an issue in Trinidad and Tobago today is not Robinson. That's a fallacy .. what is an issue is our democracy," he declared.

More Robinson, Panday Charges

FL1810104088 Bridgetown CANA in English
2153 GMT 17 Oct 88

[By Debra Ransome]

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 17, CANA—Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson and fired deputy leader ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction Basdeo Panday exchanged sharp rounds of criticism Sunday in the twin island Trinidad and Tobago.

Robinson, addressing a crowd in his native Tobago, depicted former NAR colleagues as troublemakers seeking to destroy what they could not control. Meanwhile, at Aranguez in central Trinidad, Panday received the support of a loyal, but mainly Indian-dominated crowd who approved the formation of a separate breakaway political party. The two rallies were the clearest manifestation

to date of a split in the ruling party which some political anaylsts had predicted when internal quarelling in the party became public last year, leading to two Cabinet reshuffles and expulsion of Panday and two other ministers.

Panday said Robinson never wanted a reconciliation. Robinson, in turn, said he had always stood for reconciliation but on certain terms. "I want to make it absolutely clear: I have no quarrel. I feel no personal animosity to anyone," Robinson told a crowd of about 2,000 persons in Roxborough, Tobago. If you belong to the NAR, all I say is, and what members of the NAR would say is ... if you belong to us, then obey our rules. You can't belong to us and belong to the PNM (opposition People's National Party) at the same time," he told a crowd of applauding Tobagonians.

Panday claimed that Robinson had told leaders of the Catholic Church, the Anglican Church and Hindus that the time had passed for reconciliation.

Both politicians claimed that they would be representing the "spirit" of the NAR. The NAR was formed in February 1986, bringing together leaders of several interest groups.

Robinson said in Tobago that what he was left with was the fight for democracy: "What is an issue in Trinidad and Tobago today is not Robinson. That's a fallacy, that's a mischievous representation," Robinson said.

"What is an issue is our democracy. What is an issue is our way of life. What is an issue is whether we would continue as a free and democratic people to be governed by laws... by constitution...by rules and regulations... by principles of behaviour... or whether we must subject ourselves to intimidation and terrorism by individuals who know no law and know no principles or no standards of behavior...whatever," the NAR leader said.

"When bad men combine, the good must associate. Else they will fall, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle. Let us associate to take our country forward," Robinson's fellow Tobago parliamentarian, Pamela Nicholson, said.

"Today...you have spoken and the mandate you have just given us to form a political party is the first step in ensuring the reincarnation of the original NAR," Panday told cheering supporters. The Trinidad and Tobago press on Monday picked up on the political wrangling.

"It now seems, amazingly enough, that Trinidad and Tobago is set for another stormy phase of its political history, one that we can only hope would not set back to the old pattern in which racial divisons accounted for so much [words indistinct] tactics and agenda," the Trinidad GUARDIAN said.

"Where do we go from here?" the Trinidad EXPRESS remarked.

Salinas on 'Special Attention' to Human Rights
PA1910035588 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 14 Oct 88 pp 1, 4

[Report by Ricardo del Muro]

[Excerpt] President-elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari pointed out yesterday that his government will give special attention to the human rights situation by improving both the laws covering this field and the enforcement of these laws.

Salinas de Gortari made the announcement to the members of the Mexican Human Rights Academy, who requested the creation of special legal defense mechanisms, such as an office to handle human rights cases. The academy representatives added that human rights in Mexico are not violated extensively but in a selective manner, mainly among Indians, peasants, and residents of rural areas, Academy President Rodolfo Stavenhagen reported.

Academy Vice President Guillermo Bonfil Batagua said they also discussed with Salinas de Gortari the need for improving laws pertaining to the defense of and respect for the Mexicans' political and electoral rights. [passage omitted]

President-Elect Salinas Names Economic Adviser
FL1810230788 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2241 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Mexican President-elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari appointed today Dr Jaime Serra Puche as his adviser on economic affairs for the next administration. Dr Serra Puche was under secretary of income of Mexico's Finance and Public Credit Secretariat until today.

At the same time, Serra Puche will join on 1 December the work group established by President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado's administration to guarantee an orderly, harmonious, and efficient change of government. [passage omitted]

Economic Solidarity Pact Results Assessed
PA1810131788 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Report by Rita Ganem]

[Excerpt] What have been the main results and benefits of the Economic Solidarity Pact 10 months after its implementation?

First, the country dealt a hard blow to inflation. Inflation was reduced from the 15 percent of last December to under 12 percent today.

From January to September, the pact allowed a slow stabilization of prices. In September, new significant agreements were also reached to stabilize prices.

During the last phase of the pact, which will be extended until the end of the year, the minimum wage, government rates, and exchange rates will not vary.

In addition, the Mexican Government reduced the income tax rate paid by private individuals who earn between one and four times the minimum wage, and eliminated the value-added tax on food and medicine to protect workers' purchasing power.

Businessmen promised to promote an average price reduction of 3 percent.

The Mexican Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development reported that in the fourth and last phase of the pact, it signed agreements with over 50,000 businesses to reduce prices in over 20 lines of products. [passage omitted]

Figures Given on Bank Deposits, Withdrawals
PA1810155688 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 11 Oct 88 pp 1, 5

[Report by J. Antonio Zuniga M.]

[Summary] "A report from the National Banking and Insurance Commission shows that approximately 1.6 million persons withdrew their resources from the national banking system January-June 1988.

"The withdrawal of funds from the national banking system caused a 30-percent decrease of all deposits in the nation's bank accounts."

The report states the withdrawals began in the 2d half of 1987, but "the withdrawal rate increased during the first 6 months of 1988."

The banking commission report adds that the number of depositors reached its highest level "at the end of June 1987, with 37,313,332 depositors, which dropped to 34,942,156 by the end of June 1988.

"The total amount of money in all bank accounts at the end of June 1988 amounted to 59.591156 trillion pesos, which included a nominal increase of 9.334895 trillion pesos. However, in real terms, these resources have a 30-percent lower purchasing power than what the banks had on deposit at the end of last year.

"Of the approximately 59.6 trillion pesos in bank deposits at the end of June 1988, 84 percent—49.9 trillion pesos—corresponded to term deposits, 14 percent to checking accounts, and 2.1 percent [percentages as published] to savings accounts.

"The decrease in the number of accounts during the first 6 months of 1988 consisted principally of term deposits, which were the ones most affected by the decrease in interest rates."

Cuban Ambassador Visits Peasants' Confederation
FL1410162188 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2319 GMT 12 Oct 88

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Jose Fernandez de Cosio, Cuban ambassador to Mexico, has stressed Cuba's solidarity with the struggle for vindication of the national peasant class. He said this during his visit to the National Peasant Confederation (CNC) today.

On behalf of all the peasants, Senator Maximiliano Silerio Esparza said that farmers are fighting so that the guaranteed prices of basic products are fair and cover each region's production costs. He said that through the Chamber of Deputies and Senators, who support the struggle to promote work for farmers, the CNC expressed its dissatisfaction over the authoritative and unilateral manner in which guaranteed prices were fixed.

Silerio Esparza agreed with Osorio Marban, organization secretary of CNC production, in that Mexican and Cuban agrarian reform are rooted in authentic revolutionary movements that are initiated at the grass-roots level.

The National Executive Committee of the CNC, headed by Hector Hugo Olivares Ventura, secretary general of the CNC, welcomed the Cuban ambassador. The ceremony was attended by senators, peasant delegates, leaders of the league of agrarian communities, and representatives of the production unions.

After receiving a collection of books on Mexico's agrarian struggle, the Cuban diplomat said during the brief meeting that the Mexican agrarian movement has been greatly significant in the history of America.

Operation of Nuclear Plant Authorized
PA1610004188 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Statement by Deputy Energy Secretary Jose Luis Alcudia "a few minutes ago"; place not given—recorded]

[Text] After listening to and studying opinions in favor as well as against the nuclear plant, and after reporting to the special commissions of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, the Federal Government today decided to start the process to put in operation the first reactor of the Laguna Verde nuclear power plant in Veracruz for the following reasons:

During the development of the project, the technical and safety regulations imposed by the National Commission for Nuclear Energy Security and Protection—based on the regulations in effect in the country where this technology originated and on the recommendations from the IAEA—have been followed. In addition to the supervision by the National Commission for Nuclear Energy Security and Protection, the project has been supervised by the IAEA and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The Federal Electricity Commission has also participated in this task.

In 1987, upon reaching the final construction stage, the government, as an additional verification measure, considered it necessary to request the opinion of a group of IAEA specialists regarding the suitability of the design and construction of the Laguna Verde plant. These IAEA specialists also were asked to evaluate the skills and qualifications of the personnel responsible for the plant's operation. The reports received were highly favorable and were supported by the IAEA's specific knowledge of this project. This knowledge came from the participation of IAEA experts in the development of the project and from the visits by three IAEA delegations to review the plant's operational safety.

Mexico has an agreement with the IAEA that includes guarantees that nuclear energy will be used exclusively for peaceful purposes. The agreement also ensures the physical security of the nuclear plant's facilities. Under this agreement, the IAEA is empowered to demand the suspension of the Laguna Verde plant's operations if these operations are deemed unsafe.

As most countries have done, we have set up a civil defense system that includes an emergency plan to avoid harm to the neighboring population in the remote event radioactive substances are released.

Once the reactor has been loaded, the beginning of operations and the testing and mandatory verifications will take more than 6 months. The demand for electricity is higher than anticipated, and the first Laguna Verde reactor is expected to generate power in 1989. If this plant is not ready by then, there is a possibility that electricity will be rationed in 1990 and 1991.

Each Laguna Verde reactor is expected to produce over 4 billion kw per hour annually, saving more than 14 million barrels of fuel oil each year. During its operating

life, the Laguna Verde nuclear plant will save around 420 million barrels of oil. The Federal Government will closely follow the entire process and will fully guarantee this plant's safe operation.

Defense Secretary Reports on Antidrug Operations

PA1910025688 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Oct 88 pp 5-A, 24-A

[Summary] The Mexican Secretariat of National Defense has arrested 488 drug traffickers in the past 30 days. In all, 1,085 firearms, 8,189 cartridges, 5.5 tons of packed marijuana, and 196 kg of poppy and marijuana seeds were seized. National Defense Secretary Juan Arevalo Gardoqui disclosed yesterday that 9,425 poppy and 15,400 marijuana plants, 1,800 kg of recently cut marijuana, and 300 kg of marijuana seeds were destroyed in the past 30 days.

Correction to Report on Drug Confiscations

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "9-Month Report on Drug Confiscations, Arrests," published in the 4 October Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 4, column two:

Only paragraph, from line six, reads: ...destroyed approximately 175 marijuana and poppy seed plots [plantios] per day. The....(changing "plantation" to "plot," providing vernacular)

Costa Rica

U.S. Said To Aid OIJ in Phone Tapping

PA1910023988 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Excerpt] During an appearance before a commission investigating drug trafficking and money laundering, Deputy Leonel Villalobos condemned the fact that the Judicial Investigation Organization [OIJ] has a special unit for keeping track of politicians in this country. He said that agents Llorente and Solano work in this special unit.

Deputy Villalobos pointed out that the subtle occupation of this country must be investigated. He said that there is information indicating that the U.S. Embassy has brought to Costa Rica a switchboard with 3,000 lines to tap the telephones of politicians, including President Oscar Arias. The National Liberation Party legislator asked: Does this mean that politicians in this country must be subjected to the OIJ and its special unit, which follows U.S. Embassy guidelines? [passage omitted]

Government Reports 15.5-Percent Inflation Jan-Sep

PA1510133688 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Summary] Government sources have reported that during the first 9 months of 1988, Costa Rica registered a 15.5-percent inflation rate. The Costa Rican deputy economy minister said the inflation rate increased by 1.7 percent in September.

The sources added that the government is making efforts to prevent this year's inflation from being higher than last year's, which was 16.4 percent. However, the sources admitted it is a difficult goal, because it depends on prices during the last 3 months of the year.

Opposition economists believe Costa Rica will register a 20-percent inflation rate in 1988.

El Salvador

Duarte on Attacks, Talks With Guerrillas

PA1910042788 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0321 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] The latest dynamite attacks only create social uncertainty, and several political groups are trying to profit from these attacks, President Jose Napoleon Duarte has said. The president also reiterated he is willing to meet with the guerrillas to seek a solution to the country's problems, provided the guerrillas publicly announce they will give up violence.

Replying to the charges by some ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] officials against the Christian Democratic Party to the effect that the ruling party could have prevented the dynamite attacks against ARENA officials' property, Duarte says ARENA wants to gain political profit and create confusion. This does not contribute at all to the democratic process, Duarte added.

[Begin Duarte recording] The ARENA people are trying to see how they can gain some political profit from these attacks. It is a fact that the attacks have taken place, and apparently the leftist groups are creating more problems for the country. I think we should clearly define who is using violence and who wants to create confusion. Screaming that the wolf is coming becomes dangerous, and it is also ridiculous. Many people and political groups become confused, and that is bad. I believe ARENA's policy is not contributing at all to the democratic process. [end recording]

Referring to the possibility that the government and the FMLN might hold a fourth round of talks, the president said this now depends on the guerrillas, who must define their stand and admit that violence is not the means for achieving power.

[Begin recording] [Duarte] I have said that when the guerrillas say they will renounce violence and join the democratic process, then I am ready to talk, right now, today, if they want.

[Reporter] Mr President, do you think the possibility of holding a dialogue might be helped by the meeting the FMLN commanders will hold with Costa Rican President Arias next Monday in San Jose, Costa Rica?

[Duarte] I think the chances for a dialogue improve if the guerrillas are willing to say they support the democratic process. However, if they want to continue thinking they can negotiate power to impose a Marxist totalitarian dictatorship, then the answer is no. [end recording]

Duarte made these statements shortly before the beginning of another of the meetings the government has been holding with the political parties since May to discuss a peace proposal.

Explosions Injure 8, Damage ARENA Offices

PA1810173488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1654 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 18 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—Explosions in several parts of San Salvador Department left at least eight people wounded and partially destroyed one city hall and an office of the rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA).

Last night, unidentified people hurled an explosive device at the town hall of Mejicanos, northeast of San Salvador, while several hundred people were gathered there.

The bomb injured at least seven people, including one municipal and one national policeman. It exploded as ARENA members were about to begin a meeting with Daniel Rivera, mayor of Mejicanos and a member of ARENA, the main opposition force in the country.

The attack on the Mejicanos city hall, the second in less than 20 days, was carried out by several unidentified individuals traveling in a vehicle.

Another explosion took place last night at the ARENA headquarters in Santa Tecla, on the outskirts of San Salvador. A security guard was wounded.

So far, no military organization has claimed credit for the two attacks, but police spokesmen have not ruled out the possibility that they were carried out by FMLN urban guerrillas. [passage omitted]

Car Bombs Injure Five in San Salvador

PA1910032488 Paris AFP in Spanish 0305 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Oct (AFP)—Two car bombs exploded this evening in the western outskirts of San Salvador, wounding at least five people in a hamburger restaurant.

The police reported that other explosions were heard in various parts of the capital, but there were no details about what had happened.

One of the automobiles exploded while parked next to a hamburger restaurant in the elegant Escalon neighborhood, and another automobile parked nearby exploded almost simultaneously.

FMLN Actions, 14 Oct Army 'Massacre' Reported

PA1710121988 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 17 October carries 14 minutes of reports on recent FMLN actions. Venceremos reports that "on 15 October, an FMLN unit seized control of La Esperanza, Las Rosas, El Paraiso, and La Lagunita, San Sebastian jurisdiction, and Potrerillos and (Cebaco) in Cabanas Department, where massive revolutionary propaganda activity was carried out."

Venceremos adds that on "16 October, FMLN units seized a stretch of railroad in La Gloria Canton, Jiquilisco jurisdiction, Usulutan Department, erected a wooden barricade, and sabotaged a section of the telephone line. At the same time, clandestine militias took control of the coastal highway at the turnoff to the 14 June neighborhood between San Marcos and Tierra Blanca, Jiquilisco jurisdiction, Usulutan Department."

Venceremos further reports that "on 15 October, FMLN units seized control of San Luis de la Reina, San Miguel Department, and proceeded to carry out extensive propaganda activity with the inhabitants. At 0900, another unit seized a stretch of highway between (Colencito) and San Francisco near Las Ventas, erecting stone and wooden barricades. Propaganda was also distributed." The report adds that on the same day, "militia units entered Villa El Triunfo, took over the El Calvario neighborhood, distributed propaganda, and destroyed one transformer. Control was maintained for 40 minutes."

Venceremos continues by stating that "on 16 October, FMLN guerrilla units ambushed an armored vehicle as it patrolled the Pan-American Highway near (Jalapa) Farm. The ambush was perpetrated with two Manuel Jose Arce mines, which destroyed the vehicle."

Venceremos then provides "the weekly military summary." It reports that "during the week that just ended, our forces inflicted on the enemy 126 casualties, including dead and wounded—17 in ambushes, 28 in surprise attacks, 11 with mines, and the remainder in different skirmishes throughout the country. The casualties include four sergeants and three corporals. Our comrades laid 11 ambushes, carried out 1 military maneuver, and made many incursions into towns, in addition to many acts of electric power system sabotage. We destroyed an office of the Salvadoran Tourism Institute, a telephone company office, a commercial center of the people's exploiters, one mayor's office, and the house of a Christian Democratic Party member. We also destroyed three military trucks and damaged one armored vehicle."

Venceremos concludes its reports by stating that "Duarte's Army has committed another massacre." It reports that "the murderers of the 1st Infantry Brigade killed another four peasants in Tres Ceibas de Apopa canton. On 14 October, soldiers took four peasants from the house of the Marroquin family, claiming that their arrest had been ordered. Ten minutes later, shots were heard. The bodies were found with their thumbs tied together and bullet holes in their heads."

Spanish Citizen Aiding FMLN-FDR Captured

PA1910012288 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 17 Oct 88 pp 1, 47

[Text] Spanish doctor Pedro Boyache, who was wounded in combat last week, was captured by the Army and turned over to the International Red Cross.

Military sources reported that the FMLN-FDR rebel was taken to the International Red Cross headquarters yesterday and that Spanish Ambassador to El Salvador Carlos Saenz de Miranda was present.

Boyache—one of the many foreigners who participate in rebel terrorist actions against Salvadoran social and economic targets—was captured in Copapayo, near Cerron Grande, Chalatenango.

The Spaniard's capture took place after violent clashes between the Army and guerrillas. Boyache was wounded in these actions and was abandoned by his guerrilla comrades.

The source noted that by delivering the Spaniard to the International Red Cross, the Salvadoran Government and Army were respecting human rights.

Another wounded FMLN terrorist was also captured. Official spokesmen have reported that the terrorist is in a coma.

Guatemala

Deputy Reports on Talks With Belize, UK

PA1610033088 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] A tripartite commission composed of Guatemalan, Belizean, and British representatives continues to discuss a draft treaty that would give Belize recognition as an independent state. This information was provided by Deputy Edmond Mulet, who returned from Miami following the latest meeting of the commission.

At that meeting it was agreed to create three subcommissions that will be charged with drafting the document, establishing the border, and creating a development area. One of the subcommissions is political, another technological, and the third economic. They have already started working on the document.

The people of Guatemala and Belize must approve the Belize independence treaty through referendums in both countries. If approved, representatives from the three countries will have to sign a document legally reaffirming that Belize will be an independent nation.

Guatemala hopes to secure through this treaty an outlet to the Caribbean for exports from the Peten region, on the border with Belize.

The commission also created a security subcommission to discuss arms smuggling and to exchange information, according to the deputy's report.

Rebel Station on Need for Political Solution

PA1810203688 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 18 Oct 88 p 5

[Text] The rebel station Voz Popular has insisted on the need to find a political solution to the armed conflict Guatemala is enduring to "save lives and avoid bloodshed and the suffering of the people."

In its weekly broadcast monitored on 14 October, the URNG station explained that the insurgent's position is totally opposed to the Army's, which wants a military solution.

La Voz Popular said: "The people's war is the legitimate response by people to the oppression and merciless repression that has been victimizing them."

According to the Guatemalan rebels, "the political solution consists of searching for a new situation based on agreements and specific steps that would lead toward solving the people's problems. By eliminating the causes for the people's war, other concepts will appear that guarantee peace and democracy."

Army Communique Claims 56 Guerrillas Desert

PA1810035088 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 17 Oct 88 p 4

[Text] An Army communique sent to our office yesterday revealed that 56 deserters have managed to flee from the guerrillas in the past several weeks.

According to the communique, 8 deserters from Tupal and 24 from the villages of Amachel and Caba reported to an operations area in Ixil, Nebaj municipality, Quiche Department. Meanwhile, 10 deserters arrived at a patrol base in Amachel, and 13 more showed up at Bican. [figures as heard]

The communique added that the 56 people were taken to Deserters Assistance Centers I and II in Nebaj. The centers are sponsored by the Special Commission for Assistance to Repatriates.

The communique concluded by saying these centers provide the deserters with food, medical attention, and a place to live until they are relocated either to their original birthplace or to wherever they choose to reside.

Honduras

Army Reports Aug-Sep EPS Raids, 'Harassments'

PA1710184288 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 15 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] Honduran military sources yesterday reported that several times in September, EPS soldiers entered Honduran territory and harassed the 6th Infantry Battalion observation post in El Pital, Cifuentes, El Paraiso Department.

The raids into Honduran territory and the harassments occurred as follows:

1. On 19 August 1988, EPS troops set up communications tracking equipment (radar) in Loma Fria, which was protected by missiles and antiaircraft machineguns.

2. On 21 August 1988, EPS soldiers kidnapped Honduran citizens Rosalio Mejia Rodriguez and her son Guillermo Saul Mejia Herrera, who were taken to Nicaraguan territory.

3. On 6 September 1988, an EPS patrol entered Honduran territory and harassed the 6th Infantry Battalion posts located in El Pital, Cifuentes. Our troops responded to their fire and suffered no casualties.

4. On 9 September 1988, EPS soldiers attacked with machinegun and mortar fire the 9th Infantry Brigade Battalion post in Cerro Pelon, La Lampara, Quebrada del Oro, and Tapalchi, in Poteca River, Paraiso. During the attack, soldier Jose Mario Chicas Diaz was wounded. Our troops responded to the fire and reported no [further] casualties.

5. On 10 September 1988, EPS troops continued attacking the same 9th Infantry Brigade Battalion post with 50-mm machineguns; patrols were increased and personnel and weapons were deployed to the Guapinol, Comarca, Paraisito, and Comarca Guanito sectors, near the Poteca River.

6. On 14 September 1988, EPS soldiers harassed with machinegun fire the 9th Infantry Brigade post located in El Guineo and Pueblo Nuevo, Cifuentes. No casualties were reported.

7. On 18 September 1988, EPS soldiers attacked positions held by the 9th Infantry Battalion at La Congolona on the Poteca River with 82 - and 120-mm mortars, RPG-7's, and rifle fire. The fire was returned without any reported casualties.

8. On 19 September 1988, EPS soldiers attacked, with mortars, rifle, and RPG-7's, positions held by the 6th Infantry Battalion in El Pital, and also in Aduena Vieja, Guasapo, and Cifuentes. Our troops returned the fire without any reported casualties.

9. On 20 September 1988, the EPS freed Hector Rosales Mejia Rodriguez and his son Guillermo Saul Mejia Herrera, who had been kidnapped by EPS troops on 21 August 1988.

10. On 24 September 1988, EPS troops harassaed with rifle fire a 6th Infantry Battalion position in Aduana Vieja, Cifuentes, without any reported casualties.

11. On 25 September 1988, EPS troops harassed Aduana Cifuentes with rifle fire, without any reported casualties.

12. On 25 September 1988, EPS troops shot a 120-mm mortar that fell 75 meters from Casa de Ladrillo in Cifuentes.

Callejas Begins Presidential Campaign

PA1410183588 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1120 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Report by Jose Danilo Izaguirre on statement by Rafael Leonardo Callejas, National Party of Honduras presidential candidate, in Tegucigalpa on 12 October]

[Excerpts] In the presence of hundreds of National Party of Honduras, PNH, supporters and members of the Callejist directorate in Francisco Morazan Department, presidential candidate Rafael Leonardo Callejas laid to rest what used to be known as Callejism and began his presidential campaign under the banner of the PNH.

The following people were also present: Tegucigalpa Mayor Rodimiro Zelaya Fuentes, Acting Central Committee President Ricardo Maduro, and Tegucigalpa mayoral candidate Professor (Nora Gunera de Melgar).

Rafael Leonardo Callejas himself brought the activities of the Callejist directorate to an end and began in earnest his campaign as a member of the PNH. [passage omitted]

Rafael Leonardo Callejas justifies a PNH electoral victory based upon the following facts:

[Begin Callejas recording] The country needs the PNH. I say this not only as a presidential candidate. I say this because of what I experience and discover every day.

My fellow countrymen, dear party members:

The Liberal Party has made incredibly erroneous decisions in administering the government. They have put us in debt, from the $900 million that we owed in 1981 to the $3.1 billion that we owe today. During the past 4 years, in wage increases alone, they have spent 257 million lempiras. If you want to know what public spending is, you can find it in Honduran highways. If you want to know what the people's health is like, go to the teaching hospitals. [Words indistinct] is $2.2 billion. We have received $800 million in donations from AID. And the question is: Where has the money gone? What happened to the Honduran people's resources? [crowd shouts: "They stole them."] I am not charging them with corruption. What I am saying is that the Liberal Party has been (?incapable) of governing our country and they have no business coming here to seek the people's support again. I am saying that we are your option for change. It will be the National Party's struggle, but it will be a victory for the entire Honduran people. [applause] [end recording]

Trade Finance Agreement Signed With Mexico

PA1810000188 San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Oct 88 p 3

[Summary] Representatives from the Honduran Central Bank and the Mexican National Foreign Trade Bank signed an agreement on Friday to establish a program for the financing of Honduran and Central American exports to Mexico. The document makes available to Mexican importers who wish to purchase products from the area a $65-million line of credit.

The Mexican delegation, headed by Mexican Ambassador to Honduras Manuel Martinez del Sobral, held talks with authorities from the Central American Bank of Economic Integration [BCIE], with which it conducted an evaluation

of the Mexican-BCIE financial cooperation agreement. The Mexican delegation also signed a cooperation agreement with the BCIE to conduct a regional irrigation study.

Nicaragua

Borge Criticizes Supporters of U.S. Policies

PA1810192088 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez has denounced the unpatriotic attitude of rightist opposition groups that endorse the U.S. policy of defending the counterrevolution at any cost.

Last night, at the closing of the central event to mark the Interior Ministry's 9th anniversary, which was attended by President Daniel Ortega and other representatives of the FSLN National Directorate, Commander Borge lashed out at those who take the Monroe Doctrine as their own. Regarding the leaders of some ultrarightist political parties and the church hierarchy, which defend the use of funds approved by the U.S. Congress, Borge said the external financial aid is not only oxygen for the armed counterrevolution but for others who claim to advocate a civic struggle. When they accept part of the blood-stained funds used to finance the contras' terrorist activities, they join the same mercenary and unpatriotic plan, Borge noted.

Turning to another subject, Borge asserted the Esquipulas II process has been used as leverage and not as a bargaining mechanism. He asked why there is no verification of the contra presence in Honduras now that the Honduran Government has officially acknowledged it. Is there interest only in verifying if the EPS is observing the cease-fire, which the Nicaraguan Government unilaterally decreed in an effort to keep the Sapoa agreements alive, he asked. [passage omitted]

Commander Borge referred to the difference between the aid supplied by selfless friendly countries to the Nicaraguan people and the acceptance of U.S. dollars from the United States:

[Begin Borge recording] When they accept external aid linked to a financial package in the counterrevolution's gray and blood-stained world, our adversaries claim—to justify the unjustifiable—that the revolution is getting support from other countries. The arguments are weaved with such diabolical skill that the sepoys have no choice but to claim it is acceptable to assume the repulsive attitude of begging for aid from the U.S. Government to underpin the weakened counterrevolutionary structures.

The pretext is that Nicaragua is receiving cooperation—and quite rightfully so—from countries with which the United States has ideological differences. They even talk about the food aid, the technical cooperation, and the cultural solidarity. This is legal aid. A country and a legitimate government have the right to accept all assistance provided by other countries and to request the full gamut of possible assistance through solidarity or commercial negotiation. This legal assistance, which is morally just, is truly humanitarian. There is a more than substantial difference between this and the assistance they demand. It is the difference between the moral and the immoral, between the legal and the illegal, between the just and unjust, between life and death.

These arguments, which are raised through various mouthpieces, involve the treacherous goal of taking advantage of the U.S. struggle for supremacy with the Soviet Union. In other words, they assume the Monroe Doctrine. Some assume it here as their own ideology. This pitiful recourse further commits the forces opposed to the revolution to the U.S. Government's expansionist, aggressive, and criminal plan. [passage omitted]

It is increasingly evident that for some the war is a source of foreign exchange, a lucrative business. It is something like hitting the jackpot, most frequently in U.S. dollars, sometimes in marks, but always in denarii. They are the ones who promote, stir up, or pray to God that the fighting will continue or end in victory for the counterrevolution with the same determination and willpower that we make in the effort to end it. That is why our adversaries are placing their bets on the Republican candidate. They expect his electoral victory to translate into substantial financial assistance for the counterrevolution, their party, and their sad altars. [passage omitted] [end recording]

RN Official on Verification Panel, Obando

PA1810130288 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Report on interview with Dr Donald Castillo, Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) international relations officer, by unidentified reporter—date and place not given]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Reporter] In the past few days, the Sandinist regime has unleashed a campaign against Cardinal Obando y Bravo, accusing him of using AID funds—U.S. Government funds. What are your views on this, Dr Castillo?

[Castillo] I think it is very important to have this interview at this time. First, I want to point out that the Sapoa agreement signed on 23 March 1988 establishes, I quote: to set up a verification commission consisting of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, president of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference, and OAS Secretary General His Excellency Joao Clemente Baena Soares.

Therefore, once this Verification Commission was created, it began to work based on goals that had not been completely defined by that time. However, the repeated nonfulfillment by the Sandinist regime of the commitments made by the Ortega brothers—by Daniel at Esquipulas II and by Humberto at Sapoa—have made it

impossible thus far to attain a final cease-fire. Notwithstanding this, during the meetings held in Managua between the Sandinist regime and the RN, and during many other meetings between the parties—including the last meeting in Guatemala where I myself participated, as I did during the preceding meetings in Managua—we and the Sandinists decided to maintain in effect two aspects of the Sapoa agreement: the Verification Commission and the cessation of offensive operations.

The Verification Commission is implicitly legal, because we and the Sandinists—before the witnesses Baena Soares and Cardinal Obando y Bravo with their corresponding delegations—mutually decided to maintain those two aspects in Sapoa. We decided to maintain a temporary cease-fire until we agreed on a permanent one and to accept the work of a verifification commission. [end recording]

Mr Donald Castillo also told us that the RN and the Sandinist regime asked the Verification Commission to investigate violations of the points agreed upon.

[Begin Castillo recording] Both the Sandinist regime and the RN asked the Verification Commission to investigate the violations of the cease-fire agreement. We sent a letter to Cardinal Obando y Bravo and to Baena Soares asking them to investigate violations of the cease-fire agreement by EPS [words indistinct]. We also asked the Verification Commission to present evidence of certain aspects, including the last meeting we held in Guatemala, where the FSLN practically proved it is not interested in negotiating to end the war. [end recording]

Regarding the attacks on Cardinal Obando y Bravo, Dr Donald Castillo said the following:

[Begin Castillo recording] The Managua regime is trying to reduce the work of the Verification Commission through those attacks on Cardinal Obando y Bravo. It wants the commission to simply verify the fulfillment of the temporary cease-fire. The RN, however, officially told the Sandinists before the witnesses that the Verification Commission must also investigate the violations of freedom of expression in Nicaragua, as is established in Paragraph No 5 of the Sapoa agreement. Throughout these months, we have been struggling to force the FSLN to abide by Paragraph No 5 of the Sapoa agreement, which deals with freedom of expression.

The Sandinists simply do not want the Verification Commission to investigate the continuous and reiterated violations of freedom of expression in Nicaragua, which is why we insist on the investigation of those violations. [end recording]

We thank the RN's Dr Donald Castillo for his comments to our listeners.

Labor Ministry Official on Cuban Assistance

PA1810124288 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Interview with Donald Aleman, director of the National and Foreign Relations Department of the Labor Ministry, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Aleman] We have received expressions of solidarity from various European and U.S. groups. They have cooperated with our ministry in the promotion of the various programs we are developing. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] How many agreements have you signed since the beginning of the revolution and how many have been signed in the past year?

[Aleman] We sign about one cooperation agreement with Cuba every year in our various fields and programs. We present our needs to Cuba, and its cooperation has been quite large and open. That cooperation has helped us develop several programs to protect Nicaraguan workers. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] What are the achievements attained through the agreements signed with Cuba and what specific areas do they deal with?

[Aleman] The Nicaraguan Labor Ministry has signed one technical cooperation agreement with Cuba every year. Cuba sends specialists and experts on the various areas to train us in the fields of employment, salaries, labor relations, and work hygiene and safety.

In accordance with the 1988 agreement signed with Cuba, a total of 15 comrades have come from Cuba to provide us with technical assistance thus far this year. We will send 40 comrades to Cuba this year for training in teaching, salaries, work hygiene and safety, and incentives. We can say Cuban assistance has been essential for the Nicaraguan Labor Ministry and people, because it allows us to guarantee the right to work and to guarantee fair wages—proportional to the work performed, of course—in the country's various sectors. The agreement signed this year has allowed us to develop various Labor Ministry programs. The Cuban Government is providing the Nicaraguan Government with sustained assistance through our Labor Ministry and the Cuban State Committee for Labor and Social Security.

[Reporter] Could you give us more details on the 1988 agreement?

[Aleman] The Labor Ministry organizes labor economy courses. We realize we must have qualified teachers; Cuba sends experts here, and we send teachers to our sister nation of Cuba to receive specialized training. Cuban assistance allows us to train many teachers here in Nicaragua in labor economics. In other words, many cadres of specialists in that field are being trained here.

[Reporter] Can you tell us about the cooperation agreement for 1989?

[Aleman] Cuba is providing sustained labor assistance to Nicaragua. It allows us to follow-up the assistance given in previous years. In accordance with our agreement, Cuba should send us five experts in work hygiene and safety, salaries, labor relations, and employment in 1989.

We will send 62 comrades to Cuba to be trained in those fields. Workers of the Nicaraguan Labor Ministry in the various country's regions will be sent to Cuba. The training will also help us develop regional programs. [passage omitted]

Swedish Donation Increases Export Promotion Fund

PA1810043088 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Oct 88 p 2

[Summary] The Nicaraguan Economy Ministry has increased its export promotion fund in the industrial and agricultural sectors thanks to a donation from the Swedish Government. The sale of nontraditional industrial and agricultural products is expected to reach the $34-million mark this year.

Jose Angel Ponce, director general of export promotion, said that $19-million worth of industrial products and $9-million worth of agricultural products have been sold between January and September.

Furthermore, the Swedish Government donated $2.5 million in December to import raw materials for the nation's industry, and an additional $2.5 million was approved in July. A similar donation is expected in 1990.

TELCOR To Improve Microwave Telephone System

PA1710162888 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Report by Carlos Ruiz]

[Text] TELCOR [Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Services] has purchased foreign spare parts to provide better service.

TELECOR purchased $100,000 worth of 250- and 500-(?ampere-hours) batteries in Panama for use in automatic emergency power plants in the telephone microwave system. These plants have been having trouble lately.

According to TELCOR technicians, the new batteries will be installed this weekend, eliminating communication problems inside and outside the country for both local users and visiting foreigners.

Panama

Solis Palma 'Has Not Ruled Out' Plebiscite

PA1910022988 Panama City MEDIODIA in Spanish 18 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma has not ruled out the possibility of extending his presidential term for a longer period by means of a plebiscite.

Solis Palma said: "The history of Panama is challenging us. We must face this challenge. No citizen should avoid facing any challenges he encounters."

Solis Palma explained that this, however, does not mean "that I am promoting a plebiscite to stay in power." He emphasized that he would not refuse to "sacrifice anything for the fatherland."

He said: "I will serve in any way I am needed."

Solis Palma recalled that when he accepted the position of president, he did so fully aware of the risks it would entail and knowing full well that he would have to face an aggression.

Solis Palma also said Panama's revenues are beginning to stabilize. He added that his administration has adjusted to the country's reality and is now better equipped to face emergency situations and to continue increasing revenues.

Merits of Plebiscite Proposal Viewed

PA1810135988 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Oct 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Possibility of a Plebiscite"]

[Text] The initiative from the active and very productive Chiriqui Province to postpone the general elections that the Electoral Tribunal has called for May 1989 in accordance with our Constitution is taking root with the public. The idea is to go to the very source of political power, the Panamanian people, and consult, through a plebiscite, citizens who are 18 and older as to whether they would accept a suspension of the elections because of the harsh and criminal financial and economic embargo that our country is enduring and because our country is on a military alert because of Yankee provocations.

Even though the idea of suspending the elections and replacing them with a plebiscite is drawing irate comments from minority elements in Panama, the largest groups, UNADE [National Democratic Union] and ADO [Democratic Opposition Alliance], have said nothing. We think they should express their opinion. Support for the plebiscite is growing because opposition sectors have said they will not participate in the elections. If the opposition does not go to the polls, who would be the UNADE nominee? If we add to this the min[illegible] parties' blatant outcry that "UNADE and ADO are the same

thing," what interest could there be in pitting those two allegedly identical groups against each other? All this is worth considering because elections have never been cheap in Panama and it costs the candidates a fortune to run. So, if the state has to spend 30 million balboas, which are needed for more urgent matters, one gets a clear picture of why some people are proposing an extension of Manuel Solis Palma's term as president.

Noriega Reportedly Not To Seek Presidency

PA1810175388 Panama City Circuito RPC in Spanish 1705 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] In statements to the news agency ANSA, Moises Torrijos Herrera, brother of the late General Omar Torrijos Herrera, has said that all indications are that General Manuel Antonio Noriega will not run for president and that the elections scheduled for May 1989 in Panama will either be postponed or a constituent assembly will be established.

I have talked with senior government officials at both the civilian and military levels, and based on the latest developments, we can assert that Noriega does not aspire to the Presidency. Real power lies in the garrisons, and he can stay there until the year 2000 as custodian of our sovereignty, Torrijos emphasized.

U.S. Impedes Participation in Canal Meetings

PA1810225288 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1645 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Panama made all efforts to attend a Panama Canal Board of Directors meeting, which took place in New Orleans recently, despite continuous U.S. Administration efforts to prevent the participation of Panamanian commissioners. The unilateral selection of the site for the meeting, the refusal to grant visas to certain members of the Panamanian delegation, and the arbitrary decision to invite former Ambassador Juan B. Sosa to be represent the Panamanian Government are only a few examples of the pressure exerted by the Reagan administration to prevent Panamanians from participating in canal meetings.

However, U.S. delegates, maintaining the Reagan administration's disinformation campaign, told the U.S. press that the four Panamanian commissioners boycotted the Canal Commission meetings by not attending them. This falsehood is stated in a press bulletin released after the New Orleans meeting by the U.S. side of the Panama Canal Board of Directors headed by Mr William Gianelli.

As you will recall, the Panamanian commissioners, during a 10 October news conference, denounced the arrogance displayed by the United States in inviting Juan B. Sosa to the New Orleans meeting and denying visas to members of the Panamanian delegation. At that time, former Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega, on behalf of the Panamanian commissioners, explained the persistent efforts of his country to attend the meeting. He denounced the fact that the U.S. Administration had once again placed obstacles in the way of Panamanian participation.

The Panamanian commissioners have reaffirmed Panama's objective to fully comply with commitments made in the Torrijos-Carter treaties, cespite U.S. Government attempts to impede the normal operation of the Canal Commission and thus the operation of the interoceanic waterway.

PCC Workers Request Canal Board Help on Taxes

PA1810190888 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 18 Oct 88 pp A-1, A-10

[Letter sent by Panamanian workers occupying managerial posts at the Panama Canal Commission (PCC) to the PCC Board of Directors—dated 7 October]

[Text] The Panamanians who occupy managerial posts at the PCC hereby wish to request the board's cooperation to end the unjust burden that has been imposed on the PCC Panamanian employees as the result of the withdrawal of the payment of our income taxes to the Panamanian Government.

Since the beginning of this year, the PCC has unilaterally withheld the payment of PCC employees' income taxes to the Republic of Panama as part of the economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. Government against Panama. Unfortunately, this U.S. action has placed Panamanian employees in the middle of the political conflict between the two countries and has significantly affected their lives, at home and at work.

The sums the PCC has withheld are in fact part of the employees' gross salary. This money belongs to the employees and not to the U.S. Government; therefore, it has no right to use those funds for political purposes. On the other hand, it is contradictory for the United States to withhold Panamanian employees' funds when it is paying the employer's monthly contribution to the Social Security Fund of Panama with U.S. Government funds.

Because of the delay in the payment of income taxes—as the result of this action by the U.S. Government—tax clearance certificates are not issued to Panamanian employees and their dependents. This certificate is necessary to travel outside the country, transfer property, withdraw goods from customs, obtain construction permits, etc. Moreover, the law establishes penalties for overdue taxes, such as confiscation of real estate, personal property, fines, and interest on the overdue sums.

We have requested help from the administrator, who has reported that he and Mr Giannelli, president of the board [title as published], have spoken to the U.S. Government on behalf of the Panamanian employees to no avail. Therefore, we hereby request the help of this binational board of directors. Our objective is to have

the U.S. Government release the funds belonging to the Panamanian employees, which have been withheld without their consent, thus causing them hardship and inconveniences. As a temporary measure, we request the board use its good offices to get Panama to grant tax clearance certificates to Panamanian employees traveling outside Panama for training or on official missions. This is of utmost importance, because to this date, many Panamanians have lost the opportunity to attend scheduled administrative, technical, or professional training, some of which had already been paid in advance. Others assigned to official missions of vital interest for the efficient operation of the canal have not been able to leave the country. Through the intercession of our labor unions with Panamanian Government officials, some workers have obtained their tax clearance certificates to attend official training, but not when they need it to perform official duties out of the country. The procedure has been sporadic; sometimes the certificates have been issued, but sometimes they have been denied. Losing these oportunities for training and obtaining experience will cause a delay in or interruption of the procedure of increasing participation of Panamanians in all areas and at all employment levels within the PCC.

We wish to reiterate that a final solution to the problems caused by the withdrawal of the income taxes of employees is urgently needed. We hope that in the future, the political maneuvers of both countries will not inferfere with the good operation and professional training of canal personnel. The withdrawal of income taxes by the United States and the refusal of Panama to issue tax clearance certificates are actions that together will affect the commitments in the canal treaties referring to the increased participation of Panamanians in canal activities. This situation demands an immediate solution by the two countries, because it is rapidly affecting the spirit and well-being of the Panamanian labor force.

We thank you in advance for your attention and hope the board will take the most positive action in this matter.

PCC Workers Urged To 'Force' Treaty Adherence

PA1810192388 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 18 Oct 88 p 4

["Let the People Judge" column by Ricardo Lince: "The Canal Commission: Hilt of the Sword—Part II"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] We ask, along with the Panamanian people: Is Panama going to allow the Panamanian administrator of the canal in 1990 to be chosen by the U.S. Senate and the White House? Is Panama going to allow the Panamanian administrator to be a figurehead while real authority is exercised by a U.S. proconsul? We know the Panamanian Government is facing a delicate problem, and as a result there might be no Panamanian administrator, because no one will show less dignity than Manfredo [reference to Deputy Panama Canal Commission, PCC, Administrator Fernando Manfredo's alleged rejection of the administrator position as being that of a puppet] by accepting a post under such conditions.

However, there is a latent force than can make the United States comply with the Panama Canal Treaties and ensure that in 1990 we will have a Panamanian administrator with at least as much authority as [current Panama Canal Commission Administrator Dennis] McAuliffe had before he was undermined by [William] Gianelli. That force is the Panamanian employees, who comprise 84 percent of the Panama Canal Commission workforce. By 1990, that percentage is expected to rise to 86 percent. Those Panamanians can force the United States to respect the treaties, because they can halt Panama Canal operations. That is the challenge they face and this is their historic opportunity.

U.S.-Philippines Pact, Actions in Panama Viewed

PA1810170588 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 18 Oct 88 pp 1, 10

[Article by Toti Urriola: "In The Philippines: Millions$$$"]

[Text] The entire world yesterday witnessed the U.S. Government's colonialist attitude. While agreeing to pay the Philippine Government $962 million to maintain several of its military bases in that country, in Panama, the U.S. Government attempted to screw the Panamanian people because their government refused to put the country's dignity and territory up for negotiation. Revealed were the plans of Gabriel Lewis Galindo, Tuturo [Eric Arturo] Delvalle, Barria, Mallol, Brenes, Sosa, Garcia de Paredes, Arango, Eisenmann, and other members of the Civic Crusade who fled to Washington to make "compromises" with the creators of the Maisto plan in exchange for the Presidency and "designated" changes within the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] high command.

With yesterday's signing of a new agreement in which the United States will pay the Philippine Government more than $962 million for the permanence of several of its military bases in that country, the U.S. Government revealed to the entire world it had attempted to implement the so-called "Maisto plan" in Panama to negotiate the permanence of U.S. bases in Panama, but not in exchange for millions as in the Phillipines' case, but in exchange for turning the Presidency over to the opposition and making significant changes within the FDP high command.

John Maisto was bitterly remembered in the Philippines yesterday for his "Machiavellian actions," as thousands staged demonstrations to protest the million-dollar agreement he created in which the United States will pay the Philippine Government $962 million during the first

2 years to maintain Subic Naval Base, Clark Air Force Base, and several U.S. military installations described by the United States as "minor" within Philippine territory.

In the agreement signed yesterday, which Maisto negotiated prior to his arrival in Panama, the U.S. Government pledges to compensate Corazon Aquino's government to help pay the country's huge foreign debt of more than $28 billion.

CRITICA reports over the past year have gained strength now that it has become clear the Americans were attempting to implement a plan for Panama that did not include millions of dollars but the surrender of political power to Panama's oligarchic groups, thus allowing the Americans to negotiate their permanence in our territory beyond the deadline established in the Torrijos-Carter treaties. In Panama, I repeat, the Maisto plan consisted of the United States offering the Civic Crusade and the opposition the Presidency in exchange for military bases beyond the year 2000.

Yesterday's signing of the Philippines agreement has made it possible for the entire world to see Panama has been a victim of the most shocking political blackmail involving the FDP commander, who opposed the implementation of the same Philippines plan in Panama.

Unfortunately, Panamanians such as Gabriel Lewis, Tuturo Delvalle, Mallol, Barria, Sosa, and others participated in this blackmail, believing they could attain power through treacherous, seditious, and coupist adventures, which were stopped in time by the Panamanian people.

Commentator Suggests 'Debate' With Noriega

PA1710193388 Panama City Radio Alegre in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Oct 88

["Take Note" commentary by Aris de Icaza]

[Excerpts] We have twice witnessed on television the exchange of contradictory views before U.S. and world television viewers by the two U.S. presidential candidates of the Democratic Party, Michael Dukakis, and the Republican Party, George Bush, who for us is already the future president of the great American nation. We also witnessed the debate several days ago by the vice presidential candidates, Don Quayle and Mr Bentsen, the veteran Bentsen. They were lofty dialogues, despite the fact that the ideas in each case contrasted openly. [passage omitted]

Viewing that dialogue, the previous one, and the most recent one this past weekend, I ask: Can we Panamanians do likewise? The immediate answer is: Why not; of course we can. Along this line of thinking, I ask if it is possible for a citizen such as myself—Aris de Icaza, unaffiliated with any political party—to hold a debate here, a lofty open microphone program to debate problems of the nation. If another person was sought, it is most likely he would be found immediately to have links with this or that government or opposition group. In my case, however, there would not be any room for doubt, because I do not belong to any political party.

I would like to hold this debate with the person who could give me categorical, definitive answers, without holding back anything or coating the pill. That person would have to be no more and no less than General Manuel Antonio Noriega. I would like to engage in a conversation with him before the open microphones of this vast Panamanian enterprise, before the amicable face of the country. Most likely, we would disagree on some things and most likely would agree on others. That is so; it would not cost anything to try. It would not cost anything to try, and the country would benefit more from such a debate than if the general were to hold it with someone who is defending the interests of his political banner. I would only have to expose views and ask questions of the man on behalf of our people and the thousands of our radio listeners throughout the country. I would love to engage in such a debate, with the greatest respect and always in search of the best interests of our Panama.

Party Officials Comment on 1989 Elections

[Editorial Report] PA1510140288 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish at 2300 GMT on 14 October carries 15 minutes of statements by representatives of opposition and government parties on the upcoming 1989 presidential elections in Panama and the current political and economic crisis.

Alfredo Ramirez, president of the opposition Nationalist Liberal Republican Alliance, Molirena, refers to an amnesty bill presented to the Panamanian Legislative Assembly by Molirena Legislator Jorge Ruben Rosas. Ramirez states that if the amnesty bill is approved, people exiled for political reasons would return to Panama, the many political prisoners would be released, and the closed newspapers and radio stations would be reopened. Ramirez adds that the approval of the amnesty bill "would bring a climate of tranquillity and calm that would then allow us to discuss specific problems in order to achieve the basic political solution that Panama needs to solve its economic problems."

Democratic Revolutionary Party legislator Pedro Brin Martinez says an amnesty is possible, but the opposition has rejected a dialogue while the government has proven its desire to resolve the Panamanian crisis. Brin Martinez says the opposition blames the government for the crisis, while both the opposition and the government are responsible for it. Brin adds that the government cannot let the media misuse their freedom. He states that "if there is a sector that wants amnesty, that sector is the government. The government has been asking for that through its calls for dialogue. An amnesty is achieved through dialogue."

Brin Martinez adds that "the opposition only wants to set up a dialogue through the church, but the church is only part of the country' structure. The church has a great deal of credibility in the country, but we believe all groups must participate in a dialogue."

Concerning elections, Brin Martinez says: "The government is allowing the 1989 elections to take place. If the opposition truly wants an amnesty law, then let us go to the polls in 1989."

Finally, Authentic Liberal Party President Arnulfo Escalona states that his party is an opposition political organization, because it is struggling with the Panamanian people to recover their political freedom to elect the person who should govern Panama.

Escalona adds that his party will nominate its own candidates. Escalona says: "If the Authentic Liberal Party candidate is supported by the other parties, the Panamainian people can be sure that our party will confirm our presidential candidacy. If our candidate does not find that support, our party will consequently support the opposition presidential candidate." Escalona adds that as long as the necessary freedoms to participate in an electoral process do not exist, the Authentic Liberal Party will not participate in them, because elections cannot take place in a country where the freedoms established by the Constitution "are violated." Escalona concludes by saying: "The current Panamanian authorities must seriously study this problem and decide to hold free elections."

Esquivel Liberal Party Faction Names Leaders

PA1810042288 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] The Panamanian Liberal Party faction led by Roderick Esquivel yesterday held two meetings within the framework of its reorganization process. The meetings were held at the Gran China Restaurant on Balboa Avenue.

Yesterday morning, the Liberal Party faction led by Esquivel elected its new directorate for Panama Province, which comprises 20 Liberal leaders, who represent each of Panama Province's districts.

Subsequently, the faction's national directorate was elected. Roderick Esquivel was elected president of the national directorate and Jose Fernando Cardona Mas, Jorge Rivas, and Pedro Rueda were elected vice presidents.

Esquivel said that with or without elections, his party will reorganize its cadres throughout the country. He added that his party is ready to state its position on any issue proposed by its opponents.

PDC Faction Sees W. Spadafora as Arias Heir

PA1410194788 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 14 Oct 88 pp 1, 16

[Text] Winston Spadafora has emerged, according to a faction of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], as the candidate of the PDC and of a united opposition. The PDC faction has said Spadafora is the true heir of Dr Arnulfo Arias and the only person in a position to unite all the opposition parties.

According to this new faction, "Winnie," as Spadafora is called by those close to him, has emerged as the person who can take advantage of the vote-gathering potential of the Authentic Panamenist Party, the PDC, Molirena [Nationalist Liberal Republican Movement], PAPO [People's Action Party], the Authentic Liberal Party, and the Civic Crusade.

The so-called Democratic Opposition Alliance has been trying to find a uniting figure capable of receiving the support of all the parties that comprise the alliance.

PDC Vice President Reports FDP Rights Abuse

PA1810180388 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 18 Oct 88 p A-1

[Text] Panamanian Legislator Guillermo Cochez, vice president of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), has stated, in accordance with the recommendation of international human rights organizations, that Major Felipe Camargo, Panama Defense Forces (FDP) G-2 member, was one of the officers who mistreated Mr Carlos Alfaro as he boarded a plane for the United States.

Legislator Cochez said: "I understand the personal risk that making this report entails, but it is imperative that the role of the military in Panama be put back on the proper track so the military will become the defenders of public order, but based on the Constitution and not on fear."

Human Rights Group Issues Missing People List

PA1610040388 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1510 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Panama City, 15 Oct (ACAN-EFE)—The Panamanian Human Rights Committee (CPDH) today disclosed it has "evidence that some detainees have been tortured." It also revealed a list of 16 people regarded as "legally missing."

A communique signed by CPDH President Osvaldo Velasquez said the government has been making arrests since 22 September "arbitrarily and without complying with the requirements stated in the laws and Constitution."

The communique from the CPDH, an independent organization, noted that the detainees "are being held in isolation and are denied legal assistance." It added that

"raids and arrests are carried out without an order from the appropriate authority." Moreover, the Supreme Court "does not quickly respond to requests for habeas corpus."

Panamanian authorities have denied reports of torture. They add that the allegedly "missing" people are under arrest, accused of participating in the creation of a U.S.-financed guerrilla cell. The cell wanted to topple the current regime and Panamanian "strongman" General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panamanian Defense Forces.

The CPDH noted its concern over the fate of newsman and advertising executive Alberto Conte. The CPDH has received reports indicating that "he has been cruelly tortured and that his health is very delicate." Arrested students also are being mistreated.

The CPDH includes Jose del Carmen Serracin in its list of detainees and "legally missing" people. He publicly admitted 3 weeks ago to having participated in the creation of a clandestine antigovernment group.

Human Rights Commission Linked With 'Traitors'
PA1710190188 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 17 Oct 88 p 19

["Hard Line" column by Alberto Barrera: "The Panamanian Human Rights Commission: A Shameless Organization"]

[Text] Ever since it was founded, the shameless new organization known as the Panamanian Human Rights Commission has been responding to the dictates of the fatherland's seditious traitors.

It is not possible to defend rights while looking through a lens that focuses in a single direction. It is regrettable that that commission should use fallacies as a basis for misrepresenting a government such as ours, which is fighting tenaciously to rescue our sovereignty and dignity that have been seriously eroded by the United States.

The Panamanian Human Rights Commission remained silent when, on 28 May 1988, two Panamanian youths, Anibal Villamil Estrada, 13, and Domingo Avila, 25, were killed by a mortar shell they had found at the Nuevo Emperador firing range, because of negligent conduct and a lack of security by the U.S. Armed Forces.

The commission remained silent when, on 26 October 1987, Alfredo Barrigon, 13, was arrested in Curundu and taken to the Military Police station on Fort Clayton by U.S. military policeman James Dusseault, Social Security No 366-94-3315. The policeman had set his dog on the boy, who was bitten on both legs.

The commission remained silent when Blackhawk helicopter gunships were used by the U.S. Armed Forces to intimidate, harass, and provoke peasants, farmers, and Panamanian families in various local communities.

The commission remained silent when our state security organizations located a large amount of firearms and ammunition belonging to seditious individuals, who planned to unleash acts of violence and blood in our streets.

But who heads this Panamanian Human Rights Commission...? None other than Osvaldo Velasquez, under the tutelage of Roberto Eisenmann, who created that organization.

The Panamanian Human Rights Commission is closely linked to traitors to the fatherland who support and praise the retention by Ronald Reagan's government of funds belonging to the Panamanian people.

Velasquez' mentor is widely known, not only as the owner of the newspaper LA PRENSA but also because of his involvement with criminals like Steven Samos in drug trafficking and the laundering of money through his Dadeland National Bank.

When truth is restored in Panama...when the pages of history record the pain and suffering and the positions taken by Ronald Reagan's government against the Panamanian people, many Panamanians will be set down as abject, vile, contemptible traitors. Osvaldo Velasquez will occupy a prominent place among them for having promoted the interests of Eisenmann and other criminals who are now making a vain attempt to set up another campaign to discredit and undermine our democratic foundations, thereby paving the way for the most ill-fated interests that combine felony against the fatherland with the surrender of our dignity to the northern colossus.

Comptroller Announces Revenue Collection Deficit
PA1910011788 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Comptroller General Francisco Rodriguez today announced a $330-million deficit in revenue collection. He admitted that the government is facing limitations in its efforts to honor payments and that there is a 2-month delay in forwarding deduction payments to finance companies. Meanwhile, the Christian Democratic Party's Jorge Montemayor said that deductions are being used for other purposes.

In commenting on limitations faced by his institution in making payments, Comptroller General Francisco Rodriguez said today: We will only be able to pay what we are able to collect.

[Begin Rodriguez recording, in progress] ...suggests that we collected approximately 60 percent of estimated revenues. In absolute terms, the government collected $440 million during the first 9 months. We had an initial budget of $770 million. This means that our revenue collection was short $330 million.

It is true that there is a delay in certain areas, especially with certain deductions we take from public servants to pay back their debts to the private sector—primarily to finance companies and furniture and jewelry stores. There is a delay of approximately 2 months. [end recording]

[Begin Montemayor recording] The comptroller general's report is very disturbing to us because the government's revenue collection is very uncertain right now and will become even more uncertain in the future. One of our concerns is that although the government is deducting social security payments from public employees, those funds are not being used for government investments. [end recording]

Minister Comments on IMF, World Bank Meeting

PA1510133388 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Interview with Gustavo Gonzalez, planning and economic policy minister, by unidentified reporter; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Gonzalez] Relations between Panama and these two international financial organizations, the World Bank and the IMF, have lately been at a standstill. For reasons we are all well aware of, Panama has not been able to honor its commitments with the organizations as punctually as it always has in the past.

Aside from submitting the routine reports that member countries present annually to these organizations, our visit aimed to provide detailed information on the development of our economy and its perspectives, our public finances, and our prospects for honoring our commitments to these organizations. In addition, we hoped to discuss Panama's chances of receiving aid from these organizations to overcome our situation and to further develop our economy.

[Reporter] Based on what was discussed at this international meeting, what can Panama expect in terms of planning and in terms of finding solutions to the aggression it is currently facing?

[Gonzalez] As we all know, these multilateral organizations are made up of various governments, including the government currently attacking Panama. As a rule, therefore, these organizations must take an objective stand.

One of the main issues discussed at the meeting was the need to closely analyze and provide options to solve the problem of delayed payments—a problem not only faced by Panama but also by many other countries. For this main reason, these organizations are currently establishing special programs and appointing officials to specifically concentrate on finding solutions to these problems. It is within this context that we have begun a dialogue with these organizations. We will report on the progress we make in our talks as they take place.

Health Official Notes Threat of Epidemics

PA1810164388 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Summary] Panamanian Health Ministry Medical Director Orlando Allen today expressed the authorities' concern over the proliferation in Panama City of the aedes aegypti mosquito, which is a transmitter of yellow fever and dengue. The doctor said recent samplings have revealed very high infestation levels in many sections of the city, ranging from a 34-percent infestation level in the Rio Abajo neighborhood to 63-percent in San Francisco.

While no cases of the diseases have thus far been reported, the official explained the authorities are concerned because the increased presence of the aedes aegypti mosquito threatens an epidemic if a carrier of either disease enters the country.

Argentina

Alfonsin Announces Date of General Elections

PY1910004288 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Oct 88

[Address to the nation by President Raul Alfonsin from the White Room of Government House, announcing the date of the 1989 general elections—recorded]

[Excerpts] Good Evening. With patriotic emotion I am addressing you to announce that in accordance with our Constitution and with the express popular mandate that was given me on 30 October 1983, I have called the people of the Republic to general elections for president and vice president on 14 May 1989.

Without a doubt I can say that I am playing a historical role. In stable democracies this type of event is routine. In our country, which has suffered ups and downs and disasters, it is a very important event, and as such we must value and enhance it. Nothing like this has happened since 1951.

In our history only two constitutional presidents, who also received mandates to start new eras, were able to call elections under the Constitution so that their successors could be chosen. [passage omitted]

This is a victory of democracy, another victory of democracy. Let us make today's victory complete at the balloting booths on 14 May. Let us bet again, as we always have, on the ardent light of democracy. Let our children and the children of our children remember us as those who bent over the ruins of the old Argentina and put it back on its feet in the way that our fathers and grandfathers dreamed of.

Regarding myself, nothing moves me more than thinking that I will continue to govern until 10 December 1989, when, 61 years after the last time it occurred, I will hand the sash and baton to the president who will succeed me in the honorable job of leading the Argentines in their unstoppable march toward progress and greatness.

Thank you very much.

Menem Launches Campaign With 'Fiery Speech'

PY1710013888 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 16 Oct 88 p 1

[Excerpt] [NA-DYN] La Rioja—Justicialist Party Chairman Antonio Cafiero officially launched the party's presidential ticket - La Rioja Governor Carlos Menem and Buenos Aires Deputy Eduardo Duhalde - yesterday during a huge rally at the central plaza here.

Cafiero, who lost the PJ primaries to Menem on July 9, said that "the real commitment we have is to fight the state of frustration and national defeat this Radical government has brought us to" and told Menem that he was "in charge of putting into practice the unfinished revolution" started by the late President Juan Domingo Peron.

In a fiery speech, Menem called on "all Argentines, even those who believed in President Raul Alfonsin's promises and now feel disappointed to help put the Justicialist Party back in government and to work to return power to the people."

Underlining that "we see the need to heal the wounds of the past, while the Radicals prefer to continue salting the wounds, Menem pointed out that the PJ had "the mission of uniting the people in order to govern in peace."

Said Menem: "I'm not offering any magic or frivolous solutions, as some people say," in an indirect reference to previous accusations by Alfonsin. "The ones who really must be magicians are those who push us every day one step further into bankruptcy and unemployment in a country where everything is yet to be done," he quipped ironically.

In a dramatic conclusion, Menem shouted: "Let God and the vote of the people keep such magicians away from us, because they are the ones who have made our Argentina smaller, poorer and virtually brought it to a standstill."

Menem's message also contained a brief explanation of "the five basic points" of his political programme: "A new federal pact, a social pact, a foreign policy with no ideological barriers, a full recognition of the constitutional attributions of Congress and to achieve a real participation of women and youth in government activities." [passage omitted]

Calls for National Unity

PY1810203488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1214 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (NA)—Carlos Menem, presidential candidate for the Justicialist Party [PJ], last night reiterated before some 75,000 people in the River Plate Stadium that the violent incidents of 9 September in Plaza de Mayo "were provoked to harm us." He also criticized Eduardo Angeloz, presidential candidate of the Radical Civic Union, by saying: "Six months before the elections you cannot go to the factories and ask what is happening to the country, the people, and Latin America."

"In order to be a candidate, you must live—like I have—with the workers, the people, the students, the professionals, and the retired workers. After that it is not necessary to create an image with constant publicity," Menem said.

The La Rioja governor was the last speaker at the ceremony organized by the national trade union movement to commemorate the date 17 October 1945, called Loyalty Day by the Peronist movement.

The candidate, who was greeted by the crowd with shouts of "he is here, he is here, Menem is our president," called for national unity based on Justicialism, which he defined "as a movement of the masses, seeking justice, democracy, and peace, because we Peronists are not violent."

Regarding Angeloz, Menem suggested that "instead of asking the workers what is going on, he ask his boss (President Raul Alfonsin) why he did not fulfill any of the promises he made."

The speakers who preceded Menem included Moron Mayor Juan Carlos Rousselot (who was not scheduled to speak), Buenos Aires Governor Antonio Caffiero, and PJ vice presidential candidate Eduardo Duhalde.

The only two union leaders who spoke were Saul Ubaldini, president of the CGT [General Confederation of Labor], and Hugo Barrionuevo, leader of the restaurant workers, and main Menem adviser.

Menem—who started speaking at 2206—harshly criticized the socio-economic policy of the Alfonsin administration [word indistinct] that "Argentina is not poor, it has been impoverished; Argentina is not small, it has been dwarfed."

"We will attack inflation at its deep roots, because when the official banks are paying usurious interest, there can be no funds left for investment in production," Menem said.

He then promised that "we will start the real productive revolution, but first we must reorganize the state on a solid moral basis; we must fire the corrupt officials, the tax evaders, those who steal money from the people's pocket."

"The huge tariff increases that slowly eat up the workers' money are unforgivable," Menem said.

After saying that "there is no difference between the financial speculators of the past and those of present," he added: "That is why this government does not understand us when we speak of granting a general salary increase, which means returning the historical purchasing power to the workers' salaries."

Then Menem said, "We do not want a confrontation in our country, although there are many people who continue rubbing the wound to keep us divided and to control us." He promised that if he becomes president he will work for a "consensus" between capital and labor, the civilians and the Armed Forces, city and country.

Menem then compared 17 October 1945 with yesterday, and said that "then, General Peron taught us that the choice was not between democracy and fascism, but between social justice and social injustice; the same is true today."

"There is much similarity between that 17 October and the present one, because it is the same people who have taken to the streets to recover their economic rights, which were trampled," Menem said.

He then exhorted his followers "not to rest on their laurels, but to work so that next 14 May we will be able to shout with joy and glory: we recovered the country for the humble, for the people."

When reiterating his call for national unity, Menem asked "those who sympathized with Alicia Moreau de Justo, Lisandro de la Torre, Hipolito Yrigoyen, and Ricardo Balbin," to follow him.

Menem concluded his speech with the following words: "We will win; the country is ours; our life for our people and our workers," and with the national anthem lines that say: "a new and glorious nation is coming to life on earth."

OAS Secretary General Arrives in Buenos Aires

PY1710195988 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares arrived in Buenos Aires this morning for a 5-day visit, during which he will meet President Raul Alfonsin.

Baena Soares will participate in several ceremonies to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the signing of the OAS Charter.

Alfonsin Meets OAS Head, Italian Minister

PY1810201388 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Today, shortly before 1030, the president of the Republic met with OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares and then with Italian Defense Minister Valerio Zanone.

Following these meetings, Raul Alconada Sempe, the Foreign Ministry Latin American affairs secretary [as heard], said that Baena Soares believes that our country should play a more important role within the OAS because of Argentina's position in the hemisphere, the U.S. position within the OAS, and the possibility of holding talks that will include the main Latin American issues. [sentence as heard]

Italian Defense Minister on Talks With Jaunarena
PY1810023888 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1713 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Oct (TELAM)—Italian Defense Minister Valerio Zanone today stated that he is studying cooperation projects with his Argentine colleague, Jose Horacio Jaunarena, that will promote a permanent renewal of defensive systems. He stressed that his country does not consider the transfer of the technology of the Condor II to be important.

Zanone made these remarks at the end of a meeting with Jaunarena at the Defense Ministry.

The visitor arrived yesterday in Argentina on an official visit. He was met by Jaunarena, Italian Ambassador Ludovico Inciso de Camerama, and by other government officials and diplomats.

Regarding his meeting with Jaunarena, Zanone stated that it was of great importance to reaffirm and strengthen the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between the two countries.

He added that Argentina and Italy are two countries with a very special relationship and affinity, and that the countries share reciprocal understanding and common historical and cultural links, which also exist in the fields of defense and cooperation between their Armed Forces.

Zanone said that the two ministers discussed cooperation between the military institutions with regard to education, training, and operations.

He added that they also studied cooperation regarding defense materiel and how to obtain the resources to promote a permanent renewal of defense systems.

Zanone stated that tomorrow they will study the technical advances that have been achieved with the Pampa plane, an Argentine trainer, and that his visit will permit an update of the 1985 agreement signed by Giovanni Spadolini and Roque Carranza.

After his meeting with Jaunarena, Zanone visited Congress to greet Vice President Victor Martinez. Tomorrow President Raul Alfonsin will receive him in a special audience.

UAE Foreign Minister on Official Visit
PY1710221988 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 17 Oct 88 p 6

[Text] The foreign minister [title as published] of the United Arab Emirates, Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, who is visiting Argentina, will meet President Raul Alfonsin.

Al-Nu'aymi's official visit will begin today with a wreath-laying ceremony at the San Martin Monument. Later he will meet Raul Alconada Sempe, the Foreign Ministry secretary for special affairs, and at 1700 al-Nu'aymi will meet President Alfonsin.

Al-Nu'aymi will end his official visit tomorrow at 1800.

Government, Businessmen Reach Agreement on Prices
PY1710220988 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0122 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Oct (TELAM)—The government and the business sector today agreed that the overall guideline for price increases and the exchange rate will be 4 percent per month until February 1989.

The agreement was reached during a meeting of the Economic Evaluation Committee [Comite de Seguimiento Economico] with the participation of President Raul Alfonsin; Carlos de la Vega, president of the Argentine Chamber of Commerce (CAC); Gilberto Montagna, first vice president of the Argentine Industrial Union (UIA); Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille; and other officials.

At the end of the meeting, which concluded after 2200, Presidential Spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez stated that progress has been made on the agreement that was reached in August 1988.

Frondizi Sees Soviet Penetration Plan
PY1510204488 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1350 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Cordoba, 15 Oct (NA)—Former President Arturo Frondizi has called Foreign Minister Dante Caputo "the Marxist minister" and added that "a plan of Soviet penetration is being implemented in the country."

During his speech to some 400 followers at a political gathering in "El Ombu," in Cordoba, last night, Frondizi said: "The fishing treaty the Argentine Government signed with the Soviet Union has allowed each Soviet ship to operate as a Soviet base along our south Atlantic coast."

Frondizi said: "A large Soviet ship is anchored at the port of Buenos Aires. This ship is operating as a communications base." The former president also criticized Alfonsin's government "for granting a contract to dredge the port of BAHIA BLANCA, located near the Belgrano Port Naval Base, to a Soviet firm without proper public competition."

During a 1-hour speech, Frondizi also lashed out at "the U.S. economic plunder of Latin American countries," and "Soviet opposition to capital investments because industrialization closes the doors to communism."

Regarding the 1989 presidential election, Frondizi said he believes "(Carlos) Menem will win but will lack the electoral votes, and if the Electoral College proclaims another candidate the country will face very serious political and social problems."

Answering a question from his listeners, Frondizi said: "Our country is totally defenseless because the Armed Forces are not well equipped." He added that "if Chile had the will it could take our Patagonia in only 48 hours."

Joint Maneuvers Begin With U.S. Warships

PY1710232388 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Argentine and U.S. warship today began joint maneuvers off the coast of Patagonia Province. The ships, which will sail north, will end the maneuvers on 22 October.

These maneuvers are similar to the Fratern maneuvers carried out with Brazil, which consisted of rescue exercises at sea, and to the maneuvers conducted with the Chilean Navy in the Southern Zone.

The U.S.-Argentine maneuvers are the first since 1981, because Argentina abandoned the Unitas Maneuvers in 1982 because the U.S. involvement in the Malvinas war in support of Great Britain.

The maneuvers of the United States were apparently agreed upon during the visit Argentine Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena paid to the United States less than 1 month ago.

Similar maneuvers will take place next month involving Argentine, Peruvian, and Uruguayan warships. The purpose of the cooperative effort is to train Argentine naval forces and to bring the Argentine Navy to the highest operational level.

Transportation, Public Works Secretariats Merged

PY1810025588 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1810 GMT 15 Oct 88

[All names as received]

[Summary] Buenos Aires, 15 Oct (NA)—The Transportation and Public Works Secretariats have been merged into a single organization, which will be headed by Jose Maria Pedregal. Candido Alfredo Loncharich Franich will replace Saul Martinez, who resigned his position as administrator general of the National Roads Department. Transportation Minister Rodolfo Terragno also appointed Horacio Escofet, who is currently chief of his cabinet, "to supervise the de-monopolization process."

New Officials Installed

PY1910115188 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2143 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Summary] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (TELAM)—President Raul Alfonsin this afternoon administered the oath of office to Jose Pedregal as the new Transport and Public Works Secretary. Juan Carlos Odonell was installed as Human Development and Family secretary.

Envoy Touring Asian Countries To Increase Ties

PY1510165088 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0126 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Oct (DYN)—Susana Ruiz Cerutti, the foreign relations secretary, is currently touring Asian countries for the purpose of strengthening bilateral ties.

Although the Foreign Ministry has not issued any report on this tour, it has been learned that Cerutti, who is the second-ranking Foreign Ministry officer, is carrying proposals to be submitted to the Japanese, the PRC, and the ROK Governments. The proposals are designed to increase bilateral exchanges with those countries.

Ambassador Ruiz Cerutti left Argentina last week. She is scheduled to return to Buenos Aires around 22 October.

Bolivia

Government Willing To Review U.S. Accords

PY1810134488 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] According to Bolivian Foreign Minister Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez, the Bolivian Government is willing to review bilateral agreements signed with the United States, and adjust them to the new legal system implemented in the country.

The foreign minister says Bolivia is willing to consider a number of amendments to annexes 1 and 2 of the agreements signed with the United States.

Bedregal Gutierrez added that in Washington he met with the assistant secretary in charge of illegal drug trafficking matters, and with Ann Wrobleski. He said he proposed appropriate changes to bridge the current gaps.

According to the foreign minister, several factors have been considered decisive for revising the two annexes: particularly economic aid and markets for products that will replace the coca leaves.

He explained that the two annexes are not in keeping with the current situation, and that actions intended to overcome current differences must be adopted.

As for disbursements, he said they refer to Bolivian and U.S. contributions. He added that at the next Vienna Conference, Bolivia will outline its position to representatives of countries participating in that conference.

The two annexes had previously been considered classified. One of them pertains to the fight against drug trafficking, while the other involves plans to eradicate coca leaves crops.

Brazil

'Large' Coffee Crop Losses From Drought

PY1810032288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1448 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Sao Paulo (Brazil), 17 Oct—The National Council of Coffee (CNC) has reported that Brazil will register losses worth 150 million cruzados (near $300 million) in the upcoming coffee crop as a result of the drought that affected coffee plantations in the southern region of the country.

CNC President Jaime Miranda has said that more than 70 percent of the coffee crop in Sao Paulo State is lost, adding that the region might produce 2.4 million 60-kg sacks instead of the 8 million sacks that had been estimated at first.

Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC) President Jorio Dauster has visited coffee plantations in Vale do Paranaiba (Minas Gerais) and in Alta Paulista and Alta Araraquarense (Sao Paulo) to learn about the situation. He said that the losses "are large and irreversible."

The CNC has proposed that the government offer special credit lines to overcome the crisis affecting coffee producers.

Brazil, the world's largest coffee exporter, and Colombia account for nearly 50 percent of the total quota of the coffee agreement signed at the last meeting of the International Coffee Organization (OIC), which was held in London.

$1.9 Billion Trade Surplus in Sep Reported

PY1810115988 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 15 Oct 88 p 17

[Summary] CACEX [Foreign Trade Department] Director Namir Salek yesterday announced that the September balance of trade had a surplus of $1.934 billion. The total surplus from January to September in $14.512 billion. The revised surplus forecast for the year is $18 billion.

First Two Export Processing Zones Created

PY1510025388 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] The first two Export Processing Zones [ZPE] have been created. The decrees to this effect were signed this morning by President Jose Sarney during a ceremony at the Alvorada Palace. The first ZPE is located in the city of Maracanau in Para State, and the second in the city of Macaiba in Rio Grande do Norte State.

President Sarney said that he approved of the creation of these two ZPE's before embarking for Moscow today so as to mark a historic moment in the implementation process of the new Brazilian industrial policy.

[Begin Sarney recording] This objective was tenaciously pursued by the well-remembered Minister Jose Hugo Castelo Branco. [applause]. He obstinately devoted the final days of his life to this idea, which was later firmly supported by Minister Roberto Cardoso Alves. [end recording]

The plan for the opening of the first two ZPE's was approved this week by the recently created National Export Processing Zones Council, chaired by former Fernando de Noronha territory Governor Fernando Cesar Mesquita.

Government Workers Strike Affects 13 Ministries

PY1910025088 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Excerpt] The Military Police today adopted special security measures to protect those government employees who reported to work.

Federal government employees today demonstrated outside their respective ministries in Brasilia.

The government has reported that the strike of federal government employees is affecting 13 of the 27 ministries. [passage omitted]

First National Satellite Launch Planned for 1988

PY1810020288 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 17 Oct 88

[By Severino Machado]

[Text] Brazil will launch its first satellite before the end of the year. The satellite is a little over 1 meter long and weighs 115 kg.

(Aetano Carleal), director of the INPE [Institute for Space Research] institutional programs, said that the first Brazilian-made satellite, the SCBU, will be launched at the end of this year. (Carleal) attended the fifth Brazilian symposium on remote sensing, which ended last weekend.

(Cardeal) has explained that the SCBU is a little over 1 meter long and weighs 115 kg. Its orbit is more inclined than the usual ones, and despite its small electrical capacity it has the autonomy needed for the mission assigned to it.

(Carleal) said that the parts that make up the satellite will be assembled before the end of the year, when the satellite will be launched. (Carleal) said that 71 percent of the SCBU equipment has been purchased from Brazilian companies, and that the labor is entirely national.

Chile

Pinochet: Constitution 'Will Not Be Amended'

PY1910104688 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Report by Eliana Henriquez from La Moneda Palace]

[Excerpt] President Augusto Pinochet has reiterated that the Constitution will not be amended and that the institutional timetable will be observed.

The head of state made these remarks during a meeting this morning with some 1,500 officers of different ranks of the Santiago military garrison.

At the meeting, held behind closed doors in the main hall of the War College, Pinochet was the only speaker, according to reliable sources.

In his speech, the chief executive also recalled that the Armed Forces have sworn to make the people observe the Constitution. He also referred to the plebiscite held on 5 October, emphasizing that the Constitution was not questioned in the plebiscite; it merely offered a candidate for the next presidential term to the citizenry.

The 1-hour meeting was the first meeting in masse with Army officers held by the head of state since the plebiscite. [passage omitted]

Supreme Court Orders Release of Almeyda

PY1810233188 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Report by Angel Bozan Ramos from the Capuchinos Penitentiary]

[Excerpt] There is great expectation now outside the Capuchinos Penitentiary, where many political leaders are eagerly awaiting the release of Clodomiro Almeyda, a former Chilean foreign minister and a former vice president. This afternoon the Supreme Court decided to reduce the sentence handed down against him for endorsing terrorism—as the government charges—and approved his release.

More than 100 political leaders have already arrived here, mainly from the Socialist Party of Chile, which is led by Clodomiro Almeyda, and from other leftist parties as well. [passage omitted]

PCCh Agrees With Opposition on Mobilization

PY1810150788 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 11 Oct 88 p C-2

[Text] The PCCh has expressed its "broad disposition" to agree with all opposition groups on the political initiatives and "social mobilizations" seeking "to impose a democratic mandate" in the country.

Jose Sanfuentes and Jaime Insunza released a declaration yesterday pointing out that the ratification of the institutional process confirmed by President Pinochet and the interior minister "are a provocation" that "purports to ignore the democratic meaning of the broad victory of the no-vote on 5 October."

The PCCh also demanded the release of Clodomiro Almeyda, Manuel Bustos, Arturo Martinez, and Juan Pablo Cardenas, and the end of the trials against journalists.

Humanist Party Regains Legal Status

PY1710015288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1339 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 16 Oct (TELAM-ANSA)—The Election Evaluation Tribunal [Tribunal Calificador de Elecciones] has approved the legal status of the Chilean Humanist Party, thus annulling a decision handed down by the Electoral Service [Servicio Electoral], which questioned the party's creation and ordered it to disband.

The tribunal's decision indicates that the political party, similar to Europe's Green Parties, did, in fact, create its internal departments before witnesses [ministros de fe], as required by law. The decision also indicates that there was an error in the Electoral Service's original ruling.

The party uses orange flags and more than 80 percent of its membership is under the age of 30. The Humanists express [words indistinct] and the incorporation of new organizations in the country's political sector.

The Electoral Service's decision, which has now been annulled, was handed down on 7 September 1988. It placed obstacles in the creation and [words indistinct].

The Humanist Party is one of 16 political groups that on 14 October demanded the resignation of General Pinochet and an urgent dialogue between the opposition forces and the Armed Forces in order to accelerate the return of democracy in Chile.

Calls for Pinochet Ouster

PY1710203388 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Report by Raul Pena Solier from the headquarters of the Humanist Party]

[Text] The fact that the electoral court has allowed the Humanist Party to retain its legal status has made this party more sarcastic, arrogant, and aggressive. This became obvious at a crowded news conference when the president of the orange party, Tomas Hirsch, resorting to semi-humorous phraseology that we thought only Florcita Motuda [popular Chilean comedian] was capable of, said that he has decided to create commando groups for the resignation of President Pinochet.

This idea cropped up this weekend and it caught everyone by surprise, including Patricio Aylwin, spokesman for the bloc of 16 opposition parties, and Anibal Palma, president of the United Left.

Hirsch said that there must be a change of government very shortly and that the chief executive must resign as soon as possible. Hirsch said that for that objective , the Humanist Party will stage street demonstrations everywhere—beware house and store owners—and strikes and stoppages in various sectors.

This social pressure is supposed to last 2 months, because, according to Hirsch, president of the Humanist Party, which some people continue to view as a front for the banned Communist Party, that is the deadline they plan to give themselves for obtaining the resignation of the chief executive through that type of pressure.

When Hirsch was told that Patricio Aylwin, head of the opposition coalition, was not demanding the resignation of the president of the nation and was prepared to comply with the constitutional timetable, Hirsch answered that his antagonism toward the government would not jeopardize the unity of the opposition. He obviously meant that both the moderate and the aggressive parties are after the same objective: power. Methods may vary, but the objective is the same: to take over the government of all Chileans, including those who cannot stand Marxism.

In sum, the Humanist Party, which is much more aggressive than the left wing, the direction in which they were moving even before the plebiscite, is not prepared to wait out the timetable established in the Constitution, which in their opinion is antidemocratic and must be abrogated. They have called upon the Marxists for 2 months of heavy social pressure through strikes, wall painting, and street demonstrations. However, all this must be done without any violence, so as to not upset the moderate opposition.

Shantytown Command Calls for 4 Nov Protests

PY1610024188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1544 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 15 Oct (EFE)—The leftist organization Shantytown Dwellers United Command [Comando Unitario de Pobladores] (CUP) has called for a day of national mobilizations, marches, and gatherings in the streets for 4 November to demand the resignation of Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet.

The newspaper FORTIN MAPOCHO says the command believes "the mobilization is supported by the 5 October landslide no-vote victory in the plebiscite."

In the past, a new president has been democratically elected 2 months before and assumed power on 5 November.

The CUP said "this mobilization will be larger than the one we organized last 11 July."

A total of 216 demonstrators were arrested during that antigovernment demonstration, called "the march of hunger." It was staged in downtown Santiago. At the end of that day, police reported that 8 people were wounded and 21 explosive and incendiary attacks were carried out against buses, bank agencies, and shops during the demonstrations.

The CUP released a program of protests against the military regime covering the next few days. It begins on 18 October with a mobilization in downtown Santiago protesting government repression.

The shantytown dwellers will pass out pamphets in workers' neighborhoods with a list of demands that will be submitted to city hall on 28 October. The list includes a demand for the resignation of all mayors because they were appointed by the Interior Ministry.

On 29 October, the neighborhood councils will democratically elect their new representatives.

On 1 November, the CUP will stage a demonstration in Santiago's national cemetery, in memory of those who died during the 15 years of military regime and in homage for the two people who died during the celebration of their victory in the plebiscite.

Foreign Minister Meets Mauritian Counterpart

PY1710214088 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 17 Oct 88

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Ricardo Garcia will share a working lunch with the EEC ambassador at the Spanish Embassy today. [passage omitted]

At the Foreign Ministry's Red Hall early this morning, Garcia met with Satcam Bodel, his counterpart from Mauritius. After the meeting, the visitor said that he is

on a private visit to our country and that he is married to a Chilean, Mirta Virginia Poblete. The Mauritius Islands, an archipielago off the coast of Madagascar, have a population of 1,034,000 and have been an independent state since 1985. Mauritius and Chile established diplomatic relations on 30 September 1988.

Foreign Ministry Official Leaves for Romania

PY1810024288 Santiago Television Nacional in Spanish 2330 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ramon Valdez has left for Romania, leading a Chilean delegation to participate in a bilateral joint commission meeting in Bucharest.

Valdez will also attend a meeting of the Chilean-Egyptian joint cooperation commission in Cairo. Later he will travel to Rabat, Morocco, where he will sign a Chilean-Moroccan technical cooperation agreement and will hold talks on bilateral relations with Moroccan Foreign Ministry officials.

PCCh Leader Teitelboim Leaves for Madrid

PY1710234288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] PCCh leader and former Senator Volodia Teitelboim, aka Volovski, has suprisingly left for Madrid to attend a ceremony of presentation of a book that he wrote and that was published in Spain.

Before leaving, Tietelboim reportedly said that he will tour several European countries to meet academic commitments. He did not say, however, that he will also visit Moscow. For 15 years Teitelboim was a Radio Moscow employee charged with a program marked by slander, threats, and disinformation about Chile and the Chilean Government.

Tear Gas Canister Explodes in Gymnasium, 20 Hurt

PY1810133888 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] The Carabineros are investigating an incident in which a tear gas canister exploded inside the gymnasium of the University of Concepcion during an authorized student party. The gymnasium was full of students.

Panic followed the explosion, which caused the students to run for the exists and to break doors and windows in their attempt to escape. As a result 20 students were injured.

Concepcion Carabineros Director Colonel Eugenio Rivas Gutierrez yesterday said his institution is most interested in investigating the case because the only Carabineros are authorized to use tear gas.

Colonel Rivas emphatically denied that the members of his department were involved in the incident and said that the case is being investigated by the Fifth Criminal Court.

Temuco Court Indicts 4 in Arms Discovery Case

PY1510180288 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 15 Oct 88

[Report by Ricardo Jaramillo from Temuco]

[Text] The Temuco military prosecutor has indicted four people in connection with the discovery of M-16 rifles and ammunition by the National Intelligence Center. This information was reported in an official communique released by the Temuco regional intendency.

The indictment has been confirmed by military prosecutors Major (Rodolfo Caufol), who added that besides the three people—one man and two women—arrested in Temuco on charges of belonging to the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR), a young female university student, who is charged with the same crime, has been arrested in Valdivia and taken to Temuco.

The detainees are Wilfredo Ulyses Rojas Soto, 25, aka (Wilo), who is the FPMR operations chief; (Franca Penelope Diaz Quitral), 20, an FPMR member; (Hilda del Rosario Quitral Aravena), 41, an FPMR collaborator; and Sandra Ramos Velazquez, a third-year anthropology student at the Southern University of Chile.

In an official communique, the Valdivia provincial government has reported that Ramos was arrested last Sunday night and taken to Temuco to be put at the disposal of the military court.

Carabineros Find Ammunition, 'Marxist Literature'

PY1410124688 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Carabineros officers have found a large quantity of subversive material and ammunition in a house in Baron de Juras Reales Alley, Villa El Pino, San Bernardo District.

In one room Carabineros found material for the manufacture of bombs, shotgun and revolver cartridges, bullet cases, ammunition, video equipment, Marxist literature, armbands, and other articles.

Colombia

Authorities Search for Hijacked Helicopter

PA1610184888 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1803 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] A Helitaxi helicopter that had been hired by a petroleum company was hijacked in the Catacumbo area in Norte de Santader. The helicopter, with registration No HK-2987, was hijacked along with its copilot, Captain Cornelio Gonzalez. The authorities are searching for the missing aircraft.

EPL Unit Occupies Radio Station, Airs Message

PA1410185588 Paris AFP in Spanish 1229 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] [No dateline as received] A Marxist-Leninist Popular Liberation Army (EPL) unit seized the Bogota installations of the Circuito Todelar radio network early this morning and forced its personnel to broadcast a subversive message stating support for the national strike scheduled for 27 October, sources from the occupied radio station have told AFP.

No one was injured in the guerrilla operation.

Patriotic Union Councilman Killed in Caqueta

PA1610034188 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Oct 88

[Text] Evelio Conde Trucha, a Patriotic Union [UP] councilman, was assassinated in Puerto Rico, Caqueta Department. According to reports, several unidentified individuals shot him while he was walking down a street. The UP has lost 277 members at the hands of hired assassins so far this year.

ELN Kidnaps 2 Soldiers in Cesar Department

PA1810034188 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1923 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Text] Bogota, 17 Oct (DPA)—The leftist National Liberation Army (ELN) kidnapped two soldiers in northern Colombia in the past few hours. This brings to 24 the number of military men held by rebels.

According to 2d Brigade Commander General Juan Salcedo Lora, the soldiers are Artillery Battalion members and were kidnapped while working on a highway in Poponte, in the northern Cesar Department.

Meanwhile, an officer and four policemen are expected to be released in the next few hours. The FARC kidnapped these men 6 weeks ago when the rebels attacked Minca in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta area.

An official committee, formed by government officials from the National Rehabilitation Plan and the Attorney General's Office and members of the "Democratic Coexistence Commission"—a multiparty organization that searches for political solutions to Colombia's problems—was contacting the rebels today to work out the final details of the five military men's release.

The remaining 17 policemen—taken by the rebels during an attack on northern San Pablo municipality on 5 October—are still held by the rebels. Talks for their release have not moved forward because the Army refuses to accept third parties as mediators.

Ecuador

Border Security Tightened To Stop Smuggling

PA1510123088 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2330 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] In a joint operation by the National Defense, and Government and Justice Ministries, border security will be tightened to stop the massive smuggling of agricultural products to neighboring countries. The government is about to begin importing rice and sugar and will eliminate subsidies on wheat for domestic consumption. By stopping the contraband, the government intends to guarantee the supply of basic foodstuffs for Ecuadorans since higher prices are paid for these products in Colombia and Peru. The increase in supply is expected to result in a decrease in prices, which have recently become too high.

The measure is part of a government policy to put inflation under control and to stop profiteering. An Armed Forces contingent will participate in the operation and will inspect trucks carrying agricultural products in border areas. Drivers will be asked for their permits and documents. The authorities will confiscate the products and vehicles of those involved in illegal activities. Anyone caught smuggling agricultural products needed for domestic consumption may be detained.

Paraguay

Government Plan To Buy Brazilian Arms Denied

PY1310215388 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 13 Oct 88 p 10

[Text] Dr Martin Chiola, vice president of the Chamber of Deputies and leader of the Colorado Party bloc, has categorically denied a report carried in a Sao Paulo newspaper that Paraguay intends to purchase arms from Brazil.

Chiola said: "It is a contrived report that seeks to create confusion," adding that "no appropriation for the purchase of arms can be found in the budget approved last year, or the addition to it that is in the process of being approved by Congress, or in the budget for next year."

"This matter is unknown here. If it is not budgeted, where would the funds come from to make that purchase? They have to be included in some allocations, specifically in those for the Defense Ministry. Funds for that purpose have not been provided. Now, in the 20 million guarani addition to the budget approved last year, an allocation is made for the repair of tanks owned by the cavalry and the Presidential Escort Regiment. But this is just for repairs," Chiola emphasized.

"I understand that this is a contrived report. We do not know anything about it. The report is meaningless," said Chiola during a break of a session of the Chamber of Deputies when the journalists asked him about the report carried by the Sao Paulo newspaper.

Laino Told PLRA Actions 'Entirely Forbidden'

PY1610212388 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Domingo Laino, head of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), was told yesterday that all PLRA activities "are entirely forbidden." According to PLRA press section head Luis Wagner's report, Eladio Aquino Cazal, head of the Public Order Department, yesterday invited Dr Laino for a meeting at midday to inform him of this decision.

Wagner commented: "The government response" to our call for a dialogue among all political parties, including the ruling party, is to close all doors to any attempt of establishing a dialogue. We are convinced, however, that there will be an opportunity for holding talks sooner than expected." [quotation marks as published]

Wagner said the PLRA will continue to comply with its timetable despite everything and that party meetings to discuss topics of interest to the civilian society will continue to be organized in Asuncion and in the country's interior.

"Therefore, this prohibition is useless and will not be complied with," Wagner concluded.

Yesterday the PLRA released a communique stating: "The Armed Forces belong to the nation."

"The Armed Forces are a permanent institution and have specific objectives and characteristics. Therefore, they are beyond political party fights," adds the communique. The institutionality of the Armed Forces is the best guarantee that their objectives will be fulfilled. "The love and respect of the people for the Armed Forces, which obeys no factionalism, guarantees the fulfillment of these objectives. However, if the Armed Forces compromise with a faction and enter the field of political party confrontation, they automatically clash with other sectors of society and lose their institutional credibility," the communique adds.

The PLRA communique warns, however, that: "This does not mean that the Armed Forces should be entirely isolated from national life. We are not campaigning against the social role that the Armed Forces must play in the life of the country. In addition to the duty of preserving national sovereignty, the Armed Forces must defend the country's constitutional order. However, they must defend this order impartially, without mingling in political confrontations and respecting the will of the people as expressed in the elections. This is how the Armed Forces must submit to the civilian power."

Meeting Forbidden

PY1710174188 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Oct 88 p 11

[Text] The Authentic Radical Liberal Party could not hold a meeting on 15 October in Villeta. Later several members of the PLRA board went to Naranjaity where they held an impromptu meeting. Present at this meeting were Julio Cesar Franco, Luis Wagner, and Mauri Arza.

Luis Wagner, who is in charge of publicity, said: "We discussed the prohibition on the PLRA to stage any activities. However, we saw that the PLRA members in Villeta intend to carry out a training and organization program in towns in the region in view of the upcoming changes in our country."

Wagner added that the economic loss of the Villeta PLRA members has not affected them at all. He said: "On the contrary, it strengthens their conviction that they are on the proper path."

Laino, Others Detained

PY1810141088 Asuncion Radio Caritas in Spanish 1330 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Two members of the National Confederation of Workers [Coordinacion Nacional de Trabajadores—CNT] have been detained. They are Corfino Coronel, acting secretary general of the CNT, a branch organization of the Latin American Central Organization of Workers [CLAT] and of the World Confederation of Workers; and Adolfo Gamarra, finance secretary of the same organization. They were detained yesterday and are now being held in custody at the Security Police Detention Center.

According to the report, these union leaders were detained without any judicial order and without being told the reasons for their arrest.

Habeas corpus petitions were submitted this morning on behalf of Corfino Coronel and Adolfo Gamarra, leaders of the CNT.

Police agents this morning violently repressed members of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party at the Recoleta Cemetery and detained PLRA President Domingo laino. The PLRA members this morning gathered at the cemetery to recall the foundation of the party on 18 October 1891.

Police troops prevented the PLRA members from holding the ceremony and detained Domingo Laino and Ramon Ferreira, head of the PLRA youth, and other members. They were violently beaten by the police. According to eyewitnesses, several people who went to participate in the ceremony were also beaten by the police.

The whereabouts of the detainees is not known.

Social Workers Union Members Arrested

PY1410133888 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
14 Oct 88 p 21

[Text] Angel Estigarribia, secretary general of the Social Workers Union, yesterday reported that four members of the union have been arrested by plainchothesmen who said they were implementing the orders of Justice and Labor Minister Jose Eugenio Jacquet.

"At about 1130, plainchothesmen raided the Education and Social Support Services (SEAG) offices on Eligio Ayala Street, almost on the corner of Antequera Street, next to the San Roque Church. During the raid they arrested Victor Bareiro, Antonio Cagna, Silvano Tesei, and Michel Derieux, who work there," Angel Estigarribia said.

Estigarribia also explained that the men took many folders and papers on education programs and social assistance programs to workers which had been prepared in that office.

"It is noticeable that lately plainclothesmen have been raiding offices and homes and detaining people, saying that they are acting on orders of ministers or other important people," Estigarribia concluded.

Habeas Corpus Requested

PY1810203788 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish
15 Oct 88 p 10

[Text] Yesterday morning Lawyer Pedro Dario Portillo submitted a habeas corpus petition in favor of several people who were detained on 13 October at about 1030. The habeas corpus petition was submitted in favor of Silvano Tesei, Antonio Cagna, Michael Derieux, Victor Bareiro, and Luis Gayoso. The petition states that these people were "arbitrarily and illegally arrested by plainclothes policemen at a house located on Eligio Ayala Street, near the corner of Antequera Street." It adds that "the plainclothesmen said they were implementing orders from their superiors and raided the house and seized several documents."

The habeas corpus petition adds: "Those arrested are being held incommunicado in the so-called Interior Ministry technical section." The petition states: "No authority has requested their arrest nor was any warrant issued against them. Therefore, this arrest constitutes a violation of the Constitution and the penal code."

Through a communique, the Social Workers Union have repudiated the "repressive campaign that has been unleashed against members of this union and against social service institutions."

It also expresses its solidarity with those under arrest and urges "all democratic union, social, and political organizations to join the struggle of the Coordination Board for the Liberation of Political Prisoners and of Imprisoned Social Organization Members and to struggle against repression to undertake a decisive struggle against this regime."

Arrests Protested

PY1810130988 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
17 Oct 88 p 10

[Text] The Coordinating Board for the Liberation of Political Prisoners and of Imprisoned Social Organization Members has released a communique in connection with the arrest of members of the Social Workers Union (STS) and of the National Construction Workers Union (SINATRAC).

"This repressive wave unleashed against unions, peasants, the people, and human rights organizations seeks to curtail their participation in this imminent process of change. Despite this fact, there are political sectors who seek to hold a dialogue with the regime, which has not met the people's demands of decent salaries, jobs, land, and freedom of organization and expression," the communique states.

The members of the Coordinating Board publicly voice their solidarity with STS members Michel Derieux, Victor Bareiro, Tonino Cagna, and Silvano Tesei, and with SINATRAC member Luis Gayoso, who were arrested on 13 October. The board also expresses solidarity with Ciriaco Ruiz, from Torin Yguazu village, who is in custody at the Villarica Interior Ministry office; with Regina Rodas, allegedly being held at the Interior Ministry Technical Section; and with the detained peasants of the township of Pedrozo, Capiata district, the communique says.

"These new arrests are part of several repressive measures that affect all democratic sectors of the country," the communique concludes.

Missing Peoples' Commission Leader Arrested

PY1710130588 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
15 Oct 88 p 8

[Text] Leaders of the Paraguayan Peasant Movement (MCP) have reported that Regina Vda. de Rodas, president of the Commission of Relatives of Paraguayan Missing People, has been arrested.

Mrs Rodas' arrest yesterday is probably connected to the case of the five workers of the Education and Social Help Service (SEAS) who were arrested on 13 October.

MCP National Coordinator Gabriel Garcia reported that Mrs Rodas answered a summons from the Caaguazu police precinct at 1530 yesterday. "The police chief told her she was under arrest 'on orders from above' from Asuncion and that she would be immediately sent to the capital," said Garcia.

"The commission on missing people had scheduled a meeting at the Benjamin Aceval agricultural school yesterday, but the documents for the meeting were seized by the police during the raid on the SEAS office on 13 October and the meeting had to be suspended," Garcia said.

Judge Orders Release of Five Students
PY1810204088 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
18 Oct 88 p 22

[Excerpts] Judge Cesar Rey Martinez has ordered the release of five people who were arrested about 1 month ago on charges of violating Law No 209 on the defense of public security and the freedom of people.

Judge Rey Martinez has ordered the release of Cira Caridad Novara, Arnaldo Peralta, Roque Vera, Luis Fernando Sciacca, and Aldo Vera Sarubbi, who were being held in different Asuncion jails. [passage omitted]

At the time, these people denied they had violated the law. They stated that a student can legally prossess any books to increase his knowledge. The police had seized books by Fidel Castro on the Nicaraguan revolution, and by Karl Marx. These books had been submitted as evidence. [passage omitted]

Envoy on Assignment of Orbital Positions
PY1810031288 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
17 Oct 88 p 13

[By ULTIMA HORA reporter Edilberto Jara and Angelica Rogel, journalist accredited to the United Nations]

[Excerpts] Geneva—At the end of the International Telecommunications Union (UIT) conference last week, an agreement was adopted creating a legal instrument for the division of outer space among all countries of the world. The UIT conference was attended by representatives of 165 countries. [passage omitted]

Paraguay was assigned two spots in the geostationary orbit: one at 90.4 degrees west, and the other at 71.5 degrees west.

Consulted by this reporter, Dr Luis Gonzalez Arias, Paraguayan ambassador to the United Nations, commented on how important it is for Paraguay to have places reserved in space.

He said: "This assignment gives us immense resources that we can use from 1990 to 2010."

Asked whether or not Paraguay has financial capabilities to buy a satellite, Dr Gonzalez Arias said that currently the country does not have the necessary funds, but that it will surely have them in the future. "This assignment also enables us to participate in bilateral or regional projects with other countries of the region such as Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, or Bolivia."

Regarding the "division" of space that was made in Geneva, the Paraguayan ambassador said: "This agreement gives us the opportunity to become independent in the field of telecommunications. We will no longer depend on the highly developed countries for our communications." [passage omitted]

Minimum Basic Salary Hiked by 20 Percent
PY1810222788 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish
18 Oct 88 p 13

[Excerpts] This morning the government decided to readjust the basic minimum salary of the workers by 20 percent. The salary now stands at 143,161 guaranies per month. [passage omitted]

The salary adjustment is effective as of 16 October. [passage omitted]

January-September Inflation Rate Announced
PY1310142088 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish
13 Oct 88 p 13

[Summary] The Central Bank has announced that the January-September 1988 inflation rate reached 13.7 percent. According to FETRABAN [Bank Workers' Federation], however, the inflation rate for the same period totalled 22.5 percent.

Peru

Garcia Reiterates 'No Negotiation With IMF'
PY1810135888 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish
1300 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 18 Oct (AFP)—Peruvian President Alan Garcia reiterated that there will be no negotiation with the IMF because it would only worsen the Peruvian economic crisis.

[Words indistinct] means that his government would have to pay $700 million in overdue debts accumulated over 3 years. Peru does not have this money.

Last month Alan Garcia said that he would never negotiate with the IMF.

These are the first comments by Garcia following Economy Minister Abel Salinas' participation in the annual IMF and World Bank meetings, which took place in Berlin in September.

When Minister Salinas returned from Berlin, he said that his negotiations to place Peru back on the international financial scene—after 3 years of virtual economic isolation—were successful. Salinas also said that an IMF mission will come to Peru during the second half of October to continue the negotiations initiated in Berlin.

Garcia did not mention this IMF mission to the media. However, he said that he will not retreat from his position. We will not surrender before the international banks, he said.

The banks want the only country (Peru) that is not paying to immediately begin to pay, Garcia said. They are trying to avoid the possibility that all Latin America will decide to not pay a debt that results from injustice, he said.

Garcia admitted that the country is facing a shortage of dollars as a result of the economic growth and the increase of national consumption during the first 2 years of his administration.

Gen Galvez Named 1st Military Region Chief

PY1810200088 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Our correspondent in Piura, German Vazquez, has just reported that Army General Ramiro Galvez Acosta was sworn in this morning as new chief of the First Military Region. Gen Galvez Acosta replaces General Victor Raul Silva Tuesta.

Army General Artemio Palomiro Toledo administrated the oath of office to Gen Galvez Acosta on the parade ground the Grau Barracks in Piura. The ceremony was attended by military and civilian officials.

Stikes Cause Lima Food Shortage Fears

PY1810230688 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1706 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Text] Lima, 18 Oct (EFE)—The overland transportation strike, which began last Friday, remains unresolved, and the specter of a food shortage in Lima in causing concern among citizens and authorities alike.

Although it is expected that Lima's marketplaces, especially the small ones, have enough food for 3 more days, the prices are beginning to climb.

The urban bus service strike, which began yesterday, as well as the inter-provincial bus service strike, which began last Friday, are both continuing.

Despite the fact that Lima's mayor, Jorge del Castillo, has announced a bus fare increase from 32 to 40 intis (about $0.08), the strikers are asking for twice as much.

It is believed that the strike, which was fully observed in northern and southern Lima, yesterday prevented 25 percent of the workers from going to their workplaces—a scene that apparently will be repeated today.

Del Castillo has said that an emergency plan would be implemented. This plan involves schedules spread out at intevals and the use of all available means of transportation, including police and private vehicles.

Hernan Chang, the secretary general of the Peruvian bus drivers federation, believes that 78 percent of transportation has been paralyzed and that in the next few hours the strike will be fully observed.

Yesterday Peruvian President Alan Garcia said that the transportation people were resorting to blackmail and were undermining the country's economy. He added that the people cannot pay the fares asked by the strikers. The transportation people are also asking that the prices for spare parts and tires be reduced.

As of yesterday, some 60,000 miners and metalworkers were observing an indefinite strike, which has been termed illegal by the government.

The Society of Mining and Petroleum [Sociedad de Mineria y Petroleo] has rejected an overture made by the striking federation, which is making a "single proposal" concerning salary hikes for miners, iron and steel plant workers, and metalworkers.

Yesterday a miner was killed in Morococha, Junin Department, after he refused to observe the strike. In La Oroya, presumed terrorists have destroyed a kerosene tank, using explosives.

APRA Expels Deputy for Drug Trafficker Links

PY1810130288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0110 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Summary] Lima, 16 Oct (TELAM-DPA)—According to a report from Interpol, the Peruvian APRA party has expelled Deputy Manuel Angel del Pomar, 46, from he party because Pomar was allegedly linked to drug traffickers.

The Interpol Berlin office has reported that a short time ago Deputy Pomar cashed a check signed by Manuel Garcia Arenas, a well-known leader of a drug trafficker gang, and opened an account in Berlin in the name of Billy Student into which he deposited $261,586.

Garcia Comments

PY1710211188 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Oct 88

[Excerpts] President Alan Garcia today described the expulsion of Deputy Manuel Angel del Pomar from the APRA ranks as an expeditious and drastic measure, but a necessary one.

Garcia said that both Interpol and the German police are reliable institutions and that, therefore, Del Pomar's involvement with drug traffickers has been confirmed.

The head of state made these remarks at the Plaza de Armas today at 1200, when he delivered machinery and equipment to the provincial mayors of Cajamarca Department.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What can you tell us about the expulsion of Deputy Manuel Angel Del Pomar?

[Garcia] I cannot pass judgement on this. This is a matter that has been descussed by the ethical and disciplinary bodies of the APRA executive board and the APRA congressional bloc.

Nevertheless, if a just decision has been made—and I am sure that this is the case—then, congratulations! [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Mr President, then this action is not meant to silence dissent within APRA as Deputy Del Pomar claimed?

[Garcia] I am not so sure that this is a good argument. There has always been dissent. I am the first one to say that a dissenting voice should never be separated or sanctioned.

Many people have dissented. They have done so publicly, forming commissions and raising questions. This is fine with me. This is a democratic country, where democracy must operate at all levels.

However, specified acts must not be concealed by making the charge that the party is trying to silence dissent. Whoever goes to collect a drug trafficker's check is a drug trafficker's accomplice—period. That person can have ideas of his own. However, if that person attempts to make us believe that the party's action is meant to silence dissent, he is trying to put something over on us. [passage omitted] [end recording]

'Presumed' Shining Path Members Kill 4

2 Marines Die

PY1410155788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0454 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Text] Ayacucho (Peru), 13 Oct (EFE)—Travelers coming from La Mar Province, Ayacucho Department, today reported in this Andean city that two Marines were killed during an attack by some 30 presumed members of the Shining Path terrorist organization against a military patrol.

The travelers reported that the attack occurred early yesterday morning in the outskirts of the town of Choquichayov, Rosario district, 190 km north of Ayacucho.

The travelers did not elaborate on the attack and did not say if the terrorists sustained any casualties.

Statistics published in Lima newspapers on 13 October report that over the past 2 weeks the Shining Path had killed 23 soldiers and 5 policemen throughout the country. According to official figures, 12,000 people have been killed in Peru since the Shining Path began to perpetrate violent acts in 1980.

2 PIP Members Killed

PY1410135288 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1040 GMT 14 Oct 88

[Excerpt] The Peruvian Investigative Police [PIP] have reported that a PIP second lieutenant and a PIP policeman were killed in a cowardly attack by presumed Shining Path criminals on the road linking Tingo Maria with Uchiza, near the Santa Rosa de Chapajilla hamlet. The circumstances of the attack are not clear, but the policemen's bullet-riddled bodies were found by pedestrians yesterday at 1100. Two notes, one concerning an alleged armed struggle and the other claiming responsibility for the killing of the two policemen, were found near the bodies.

The victims of this insane attack by cowardly and treacherous terrorists were identified as PIP Second Lieutenant Fernando Alberto Pizarro Robles and PIP policeman Roberto Enrique Millan Valverde. [passage omitted]

Venezuela

AD Candidate Announces Political Platform

PA1810142488 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Oct 88

[Report by Diana Iturriza]

[Text] Carlos Andres Perez, Democratic Action [AD] presidential candidate, has announced his political platform and accepted the commitment to transform Venezuela, solve its problems, and begin political, economic, and social modernization. The program "Government Action for a Modern Venezuela" was announced in a ceremony today in Maracaibo, Zulia State, in the presence of the AD leadership. The only other speaker was AD President Gonzalo Barrios, who emphasized that a team had prepared the policies being presented to the people.

Carlos Andres Perez then began his speech by saying he was optimistic about building a better, more modern, and more efficient Venezuela. The candidate also defined his economic policy:

[Begin recording] We do not expect magic or immediate solutions to economic problems. We plan to build a different economy, based on productivity, responsibility, and equity. We must make the best use of our resources, fully utilizing modern technology, so there will be more participation by the people in the state. To begin the process of structural changes, my government will follow four [as heard] basic lines of action:

Reorganize production to promote an economy capable of satisfying domestic market demand, covering its import needs with its own exports, and generating income and employment compatible with acceptable levels of social well-being. [end recording]

In social policy, Carlos Andres Perez stressed that poverty will be the state's top priority and that the extent and efficiency of programs to help pregnant and nursing women and children under 6 will be increased:

[Begin recording] We will ensure free basic health services. [applause] To do this, we will adopt measures to guarantee the social development of mothers and children and the mother's right to employment. Day-care programs will be given massive technical and national assistance. [applause] Preschool and primary education programs will be improved, health and nutrition programs in schools will be developed, scholarships for children from the poorest families will be granted, and the training of young people for employment will be promoted. [applause] [end recording]

Carlos Andres Perez also said his political platform includes measures making it easier for middle-income families to buy houses and to benefit from state health programs.

Guyana

Communique Issued at End of Talks With Barbados

FL1510192488 Bridgetown CANA in English 1532 GMT 13 Oct 88

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 13, CANA—Barbados and Guyana on Wednesday agreed that there should be further collaboration in the economic and commercial fields and "reaffirmed their commitment to explore additional areas of economic expansion," according to a joint communique issued here at the end of a six-day official visit by Barbados Prime Minister Sandiford.

According to the communique, Sandiford and Guyanese president, Desmond Hoyte, "Observed that relations between their two countries were close, co-operative and friendly" and that in this connection, they expressed satisfaction with the visits at different economic levels between leaders of the two countries aimed at widening and strengthening bilateral cooperation. In addition, Guyana and Barbados "agreed to institute a programme of cultural exchanges," the communique said.

Sandiford, accompanied by his wife and a small delegation which included acting Foreign Minister Maurice King; permanent secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, H.P.B. Babb; and Winston Cox, director of finance and planning, arrived here on his first visit last Friday night to a red carpet welcome. He kept a busy schedule included official talks with Hoyte, visits to the bauxite complex at Linden, the big Mahaica-Mahaicony-Abary agricultural complex, the Institute of Applied Science and Technology, the new Opportunity Corps of the Guyana National Service, a dairy farm being run by the Guyana Sugar Corporation, and the scenic and majestic falls which he Wednesday described as "very awesome".

The communique said that the two Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders discussed bilateral, regional and gobal issues and "there was a high degree of co-incidence in their views." It said they expressed their concern at the continued crisis in Haiti and they expressed the hope that a speedy solution would be found to the problems of that country so that the legitimate aspirations of its people can be fulfilled without outside interference. Dealing with the question of the unsuccessful bid by Dame Nita Barrow for the presidency of the current 43rd United Nations General Assembly as the Caricom candidate, they "Agreed that the legitimate aspirations of the Caricom states within the Latin American and Caribbean region should be accorded their due recognition."

They nevertheless "expressed satisfaction with the spirit of dialogue which is manifest in the Latin American and Caribbean region."

And, dealing with the environment, they "expressed their grave concern at the danger posed by the dumping in the region of toxic, nuclear, and other such waste and reaffirmed their commitment to oppose such activity, bearing in mind the decisions of the Caribbean community to protect its environment." They welcomed the implementation of the process of free and unrestricted trade in Caricom with effect from October 1, 1988, the agreement for the establishment of a Caricom enterprise regime and the protocol on industrial programming. They also agreed that these developments represented significant steps in furthering Caribbean unity and regional integration. The two leaders discussed the 57 million U.S. dollars indebtness of Guyana to the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF) and noted that arrangements were set up by the Bank of Guyana and the Central Bank of Barbados to facilitate the servicing and reduction of the debt. In this regard, they "agreed that the debt would be more rapidly reduced through existing and other arrangements as the Guyanese economy recovers," the communique said.

It also said that as part of the process of deepening regional integration President Hoyte "Agreed in principle" to the proposal for the establishment of an assembly of Caribbean parliamentarians. The communique said that on Caricom matters, "the discussions were very constructive" and, among other things, they reaffirmed their commitment to cooperation in respect of both the interdiction of drug trafficking and preventive education against drug abuse.

And, on the international front, they welcomed the four-way talks on the security of Angola and ensuring the independence of Namibia in accordance with Security Council Resolution 43.5 They also called for an end to the aggression by South Africa against the Frontline

States. The communique said the two leaders recognised that "some encouraging changes" had taken place in the international economic environment. They however "expressed concern at the persistence of negative features affecting the economies of developing countries." This, they agreed, had created major setbacks for the countries of the region.

Meanwhile, they said they were sure that Sandiford's visit "would stimulate even further the economic, trade and political ties between the governments and peoples of Barbados and Guyana. [no end quotation mark as received] Hoyte, the communique said, accepted an invitation from the Barbados leader to pay an official visit to Barbados at a mutually convenient time.